

In addition, we are pleased to welcome Deputy Insurance Commissioner from Wisconsin, JP Wieske who will discuss state insurance regulations, as well as Galen Institute Senior Fellow Mr. Doug Badger to discuss pros and cons between a block grant and per capita allotment from a state perspective.

We look forward to your participation in these important policy discussions!

Center for Innovation and Technology Reception

May 4 | Center for Innovation and Technology

Getting to Charlotte early on Thursday, May 4? Check-in at the registration desk and join the reception for our Center for Innovation and Technology from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

North Carolina Welcome Reception

May 5 | Spring Task Force Summit

Join us after a day of meetings to network with attendees at the North Carolina Welcome Reception. Be sure to grab a bite of that famous North Carolina pulled pork! Bring your badge and join us from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

[More on the Agenda](#)

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From: Ashley Varner
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: Oppose Travel Taxes in Ohio

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ISSUE ALERT

April 26, 2017

To: Members of the Ohio House of Representatives
From: The Jeffersonian Project
Re: Oppose Travel Taxes in Ohio

The operating budget currently under consideration in the Ohio General Assembly (Substitute HB 49) would levy the sales tax on travel services- defined as "acting as an agent to sell travel, tour, or accommodation services to the general public or commercial clients." As a result, sales and use taxes would be calculated based on the full price paid by customers to the travel intermediary, i.e. including the fees charged by online travel agents.

Additional taxes make travel to Ohio more expensive, thereby harming Ohio's tourism industry and weakening the economy as a result. **The Jeffersonian Project, the 501(c)4 affiliate of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), strongly opposes this new discriminatory service tax on the Ohio travel and tourism economy.**

Intermediaries connect potential tourists with Ohio hotels, and by doing so, help generate tax revenue from these visitors through their in-state commerce. Visitors also add to the Ohio economy through purchases at local restaurants, stores, events and other in-state businesses. In a modern, digital economy, intermediaries serve as a crucial facilitator to position the state to benefit from domestic and global travelers.

Imposing new taxes in Ohio, including taxes on the state's crucial travel industry, impedes economic growth and conflicts with the ALEC Principles of Sound Taxation, which states that tax policy should be competitive, neutral and fair to all business, regardless of industry. Moreover, as ALEC model policy - the Travel Agent Tax Fairness Act - notes, online travel companies are separate entities from accommodations providers. Online travel companies do not provide lodging and amenities, but instead facilitate the purchase of that lodging.

What Ohio will lose in tax revenue from travelers who choose to stay elsewhere will likely outweigh the revenue generated by the expanded tax; such is the epitome of shortsighted tax policy. As the principle from Economics 101 suggests, when you tax something more, you get less of it. Earlier this session, lawmakers in Montana and Arkansas rejected similar taxes on travel intermediaries, understanding that applying new taxes on travel services will create a disincentive to travel to states with such taxes.

Ohio's sales tax burden is already higher than 21 other states; income earners already endure the nation's 13th highest income tax rate, state and local rates combined, on top of this. Adding to the burden will harm Ohio taxpayers.

Therefore, the Jeffersonian Project strongly encourages members in the Ohio General Assembly to avoid new taxes on the state's travel and tourism economy and instead focus on broader, fundamental reforms that improve the state's competitiveness.

Thank you for your consideration.

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From: Rep30
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Rep48; Rep93; Rep71; Kasych, Shawn; Baker, Dan
CC: Zielinski, Justin; Snider, Grace; Stepp, Taylor; Hartman, Sarah
Subject: FW: Oppose Travel Taxes in Ohio

ALEC opposes the Rep. Antani proposal to tax hotel intermediaries, for the reasons expressed by Rep. Dever and others.

From: Ashley Varner [mailto:avarner@jeffersonian-project.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Rep30 <Rep30@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Oppose Travel Taxes in Ohio

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ISSUE ALERT

April 26, 2017

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Thank you for your consideration.

***The Jeffersonian Project is the 501(c)4 affiliate of the
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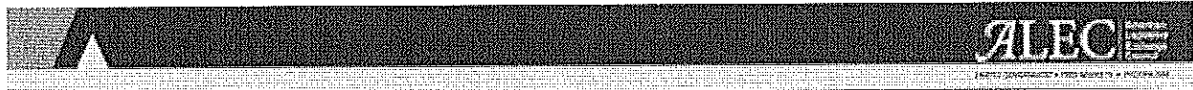
To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, Do You Support Periodic Authorization of Federal Programs?

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Digital Exchange - April 26, 2017



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As the Spring Task Force Summit nears, everyone at ALEC is hard at work preparing for a productive, policy-packed meeting. However, it goes without saying ALEC is also rearing up for all of the fun Charlotte has to offer. We are looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Fun Facts About Charlotte:

- North Carolina is a right to work state
- Charlotte is the largest city in the state of North Carolina and the 20th largest city in the United States
- Affectionately called the Queen City, Charlotte was named in honor of the German Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz
- The Charlotte Hornets used to be a baseball team, then a football team before they became Charlotte's favorite basketball team
- Approximately 75% of all the NASCAR teams in the world are headquartered within two hours of uptown Charlotte

New ALEC Video

USA (Unauthorized Spending Accountability) Act Explained

Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers | A Sarah Wood Production



[Watch the Full Video](#)

In FY 2016, Congress appropriated \$310.4 billion to 256 programs that are no longer authorized - equating to roughly one-quarter of the discretionary budget. Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers joins ALEC to discuss the USA Act, a bill that will address wasteful government spending.



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Expert Insight

Tax Reform 101

Tax Reform Explained | Jonathan Williams | ALEC Chief Economist



America has bared a competitiveness deficit for some time, due to an uncompetitive tax code-putting our job creators at a great disadvantage. Click here to learn more about how to make America competitive again.



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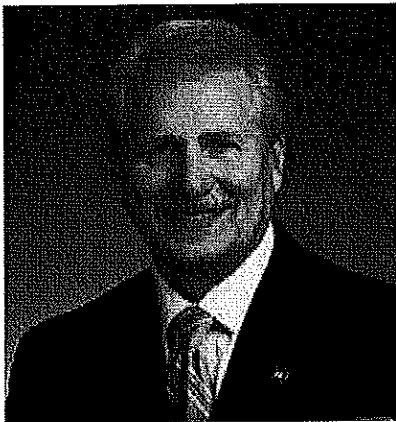
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Featured ALEC Member

ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Senator Bill Ketron | TN-13



Senator Bill Ketron is a native Tennessean and was born in Kingsport, Tennessee. He received his B.S. in political science and history from Middle Tennessee State University and is a graduate of Leadership Rutherford, the year-long government and community education program of the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce. [Click here for the full bio.](#)



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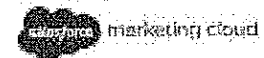
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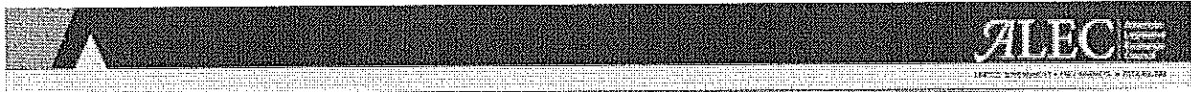
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From: Lisa B. Nelson
Sent: Sunday, April 30, 2017 6:01 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: Kirk, as we turn to 2018, we need your help

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Dear members,

The last few months at ALEC have been electric. I've heard from legislators around the country that 2017 has been a great year for limited government and free markets. And ALEC members want to hear from you about what's happening in your state.

As the legislative sessions begin to come to a close, it's clear 2017 has already been a great year for right to work, tax reform and deregulation that levels the playing field and keeps government from picking winners and losers. **In just the first hundred days of the new Administration, the White House has received high-level appointments and has taken steps to ensure increased regulatory relief that will grow jobs and the economy.** And, for the first time in a long time, hardworking American tax payers can be confident their legislators are supported in Washington as they are fighting on the front lines for limited government, free markets and federalism.

= Alf you haven't gotten in on the action at ALEC, you are missing out. But there is still an opportunity for you to be where the action is because we are gearing up for two policy-packed meetings. Don't forget to register for the Spring Task Force Summit in Charlotte, North Carolina next week. There are just a few spots left, so I'd encourage you to sign up immediately!

And as you are preparing for the Spring Task Force Summit next week in Charlotte, be sure to put the ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver on your calendar for July 19-21. This is the ultimate opportunity for you to meet not just other ALEC members, but also new friends and allies in the fight for freedom. **At the ALEC Annual Meeting, you will listen, learn and engage with the best and brightest minds fighting for limited government like Steve Forbes, Kentucky Governor Bevin, administration officials and cabinet secretaries.**

Denver truly is a great city, and we would love to have you. And, **bring your family**—through Kid's Congress, ALEC is happy to provide a wealth of activities for children so you can learn and network while enjoying time with your family and responsibilities and giving the kids a Colorado vacation they'll remember.

As we turn to 2018, we need your help to continue the limited government reform campaign initiated this year. At ALEC meetings you have a role in crafting the destiny of the states and the nation. Members from around the country want to know what you did in your state to advance free enterprise. Join us in the fight to preserve the rights enshrined in the Constitution, and to ensure power is rolled back to the states.

I genuinely believe we are on track to achieve great things and hope you will join us at ALEC this year!

Sincerely,

Lisa B. Nelson
CEO

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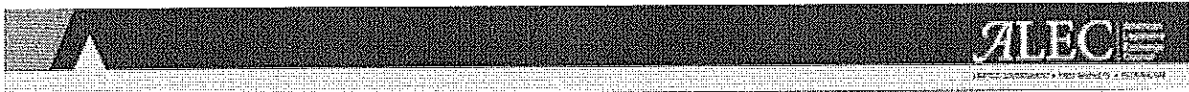
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From: American Legislative Exchange Council
Sent: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 12:02 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: North Carolina: Setting the Example for Tax Reform

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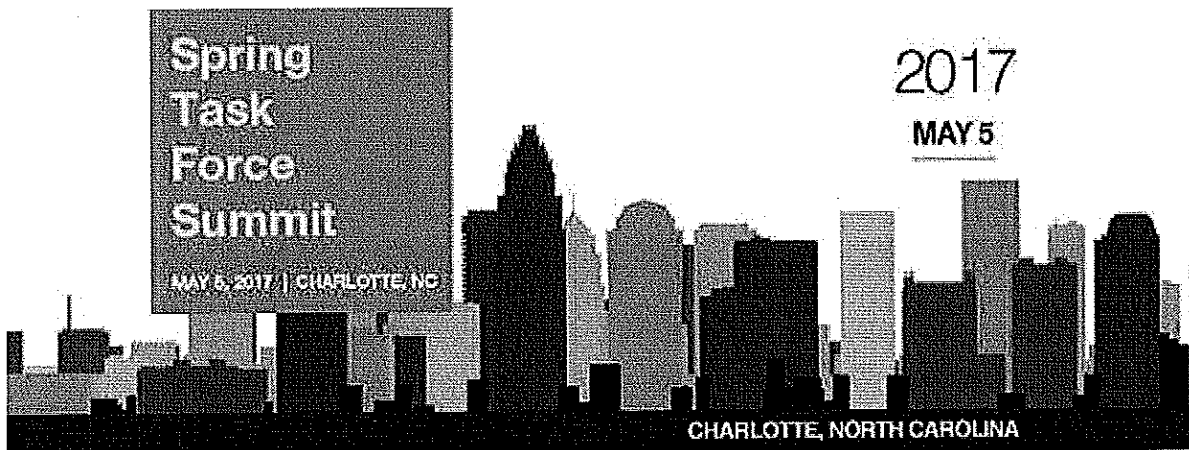
Center for State Fiscal Reform - May 2, 2017



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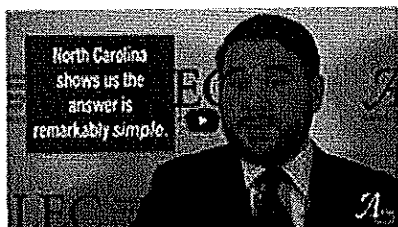


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Featured Video

North Carolina: Setting an Example for Tax Reform

Elliot Young | Jonathan Williams | A Sarah Wood Production



Watch the Full Video

Jonathan Williams, Chief Economist and Vice President of the Center for State Fiscal Reform, and Elliot Young, Research Analyst for the Center for State Fiscal Reform, discuss North Carolina's tax reform success. The state was ranked third in *Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer Economic Competitiveness Index*.



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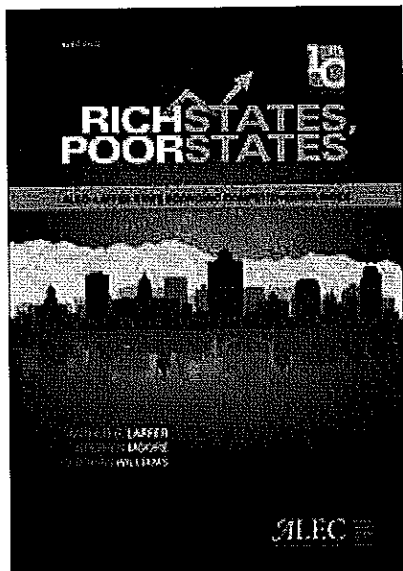


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Featured Publication

Rich States, Poor States, 10th Edition

Dr. Arthur Laffer | Stephen Moore | Jonathan Williams



Get Your Free Copy

The 10th Edition of *Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index* reveals a pro-growth trend across the nation for 2017.

Rich States, Poor States examines the latest movements in state economic growth. The data ranks the 2017 economic outlook of states using fifteen equally weighted policy variables, including various tax rates, regulatory burdens and labor policies. The ninth edition examines trends over the last few decades that have helped or hurt states' economies.

Historical *Rich States, Poor States*

9th Edition | 8th Edition | 7th Edition | 6th Edition | 5th Edition



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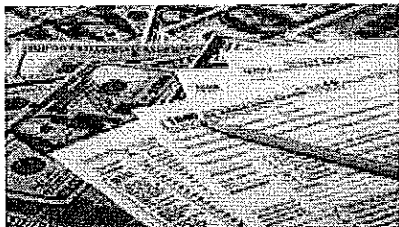


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Expert Insight

Make Iowa More Competitive Through Tax Reform

The Des Moines Register | Jonathan Williams | Tax Reform



[Read the Full Article](#)

Iowa's economy has many positive elements. However, as other states are working to simplify their tax codes, Iowa's tax code is falling behind and causing the loss of businesses, investments and entrepreneurs - leaving the state in search of better economic opportunities. Iowa is not just competing in a globalized economy, but it is also in competition with 49 other states for Americans and jobs. [Click here for more.](#)



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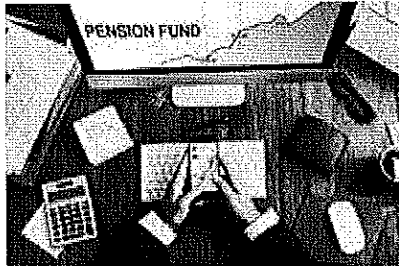


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Expert Analysis

The Williams Report

State Budgets | Bob Williams | ALEC Senior Fellow



[Read the Full Article](#)

NEW REPORT: Released May 1, by the ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform. ALEC Senior Fellow Bob Williams, provides a run down of the latest budgets and pension reform in the states.



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Expert Opinion

Business-Friendly States are Growing at the Expense of those who Tax and Spend

National Review | Jonathan Williams

NATIONAL
REVIEW

Read the Full Article

The tenth edition of the *Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index* has just been released, and once again, Utah was found to have the best economic outlook of any state in the nation. The rankings are based on 15 equally-weighted economic policy variables, including tax rates, labor policy, and regulatory climate. [Click here for more.](#)



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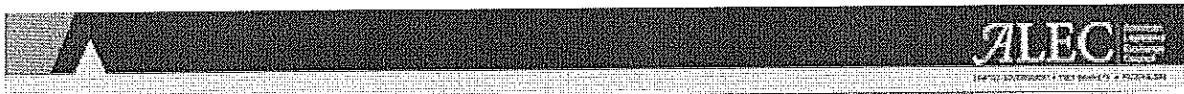
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From: Jonathon Hauenschild
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 7:31 AM
To: Rep48
Subject: Kirk, Here's the Latest on Net Neutrality

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A Letter From the Desk of, *Jonathon Hauenschild*

Dear Members of the Communications & Technology Task Force,

I trust you are ready for the Spring Task Force Summit, which is right around the corner. We are looking forward to discussing a number of important, and timely, topics including a lunch time discussion with Federal Communications Commission Commissioner Michael O'Rielly.

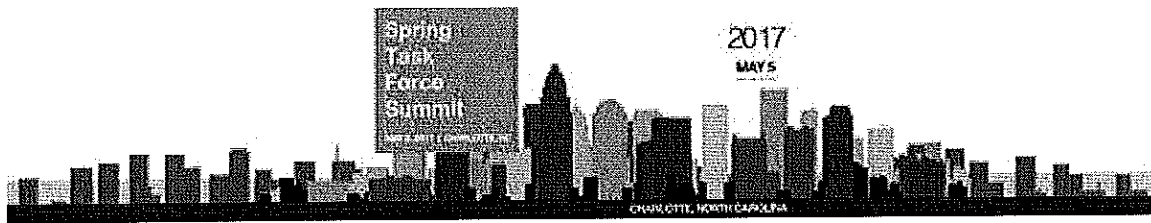
This past week has been busy, filled with critical announcements and details for all consumers of technology policy. Most notably, the FCC announced its plans to reverse the classification of the Internet as a Title II telecommunications service.

This month's newsletter will focus on all things related to the announcement. In this version of the newsletter, you will find links to articles representing views from the Right and Left. You will find links to industry statements, and links to FCC documents and Commissioner statements.

If you would like to get involved in the discussion, please email me at jhauenschild@alec.org and I will be glad to help educate you on the details of how to ensure your voice is heard!

Regards,

Jonathon Paul Hauenschild, J.D.
Director, Task Force on Communications & Technology
= A



New Video

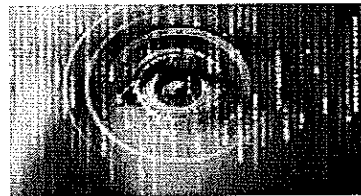


FCC Chairman Pai Signals Speaks Out
FreedomWorks | FCC Chairman Ajit Pai | Internet Regulation

WATCH FACEBOOK LIVE: FCC Chairman Ajit Pai speaks about the future of internet regulation at the Newseum!

[Watch the Full Video](#)

Expert Resource



Get Your Copy of the Full Story
Fact Sheet | Full Briefing Doc | Proposed Rule

Want to know what Chairman Pai, Commissioner O'Rielly, or Commissioner Clyburn think about undoing Title II classification?

[Here \(Pai\)](#) - [Here \(O'Rielly\)](#) - [Here \(Clyburn\)](#)

[Read Myths v. Facts](#)

Featured ALEC Member

ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Speaker Linda Upmeyer | IA-54



Speaker Linda Upmeyer is a native Iowan and was born in Mason City, Iowa. She received her BSN from the University of Iowa and her Master's in Nursing from Drake University. She is currently serving her eighth term in the Iowa House.

In 2008 Speaker Upmeyer served as the Republican Whip and went on to serve as the House Majority Leader from 2010 until she was elected to the Speaker of The House in 2015. She is an active member of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) and serves as the Chair Emerita on the Board of Directors. Click here for the full bio.



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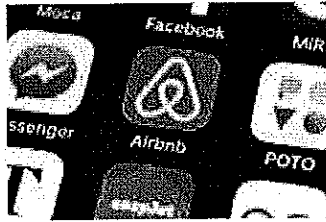
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What's On My Radar

What I'm Reading

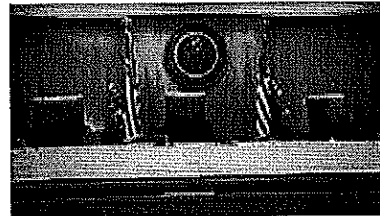


Pai Addresses the Future of Net Neutrality

The FCC's plan to kill net neutrality is here and it's a vague, open-ended mess

Net Combatants: Groups Line Up for Net Neutrality Fight

What I'm Publishing



Why the internet should not be regulated with a law old enough to qualify for Social Security benefits. Let's not regulate the internet like it is 1934

The Senate, and now the House, was right to nullify the FCC's so-called ISP Privacy

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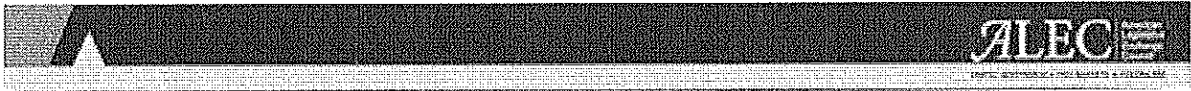
To: Rep48

Subject: ALEC Digital Exchange: Corporate Tax Reform - Making America Competitive Again

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Digital Exchange - May 4, 2017

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Video

Tax Reform

Director, ALEC Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force | Tax Reform



The income tax rate on corporations, under current law is the highest in the industrialized world, discouraging foreign investment and economic growth. Click here to find out how to make America competitive again.



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Continue to Make Civil Asset Forfeiture Process More Transparent

Board | Director, Criminal Justice Reform



Reporting requirements for civil as are crucial for transparency. Rona Lampard, Director of the ALEC Criminal Reform Task Force recognizes se across the country making positive towards better serving their district to find out how your state can impi asset forfeiture process.



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Trump Signs Executive Order Directing Department of Education to Review Regulation and Return Cont

Stepman | Director, Education and Workforce Development Task Force

On Wednesday, President Trump took a step in the right direction in reining in a bloated and overreaching Department of Education. Click here to find out how the administration is work education back into the hands of your state.

[Read the Full Article](#)



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Model Policy Spotlight

Temporary Health Insurance Risk Pool Act

Summary: This act creates a temporary health insurance state risk pool. Click below to review the full text of the draft model policy

[Review Draft Model Policy](#)

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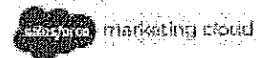
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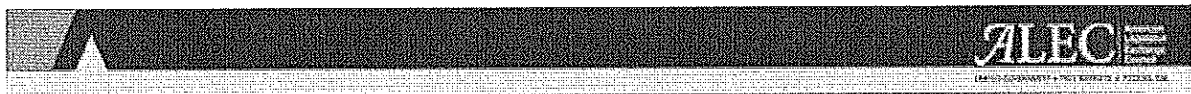
To: Rep48

Subject: Representative Schuring, here are your CARE details for Charlotte!

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Dear Representative Schuring,

We are excited to have you with us in Charlotte! Make sure to stop by for a quick, 20 minute ALEC CARE demonstration.

We will be available,

Thursday between 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
2nd Floor - Morehead Room

Friday between 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
2nd Floor - Sharon Room

Saturday between 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
2nd Floor - Sharon Room

Click below and we'll go ahead and start your account for you ahead of time!

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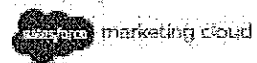


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From: Public Policy Law360
Sent: Tuesday, May 9, 2017 5:26 AM
To: Rep48
Subject: Meet Trump's 10 Picks For The Federal Bench



PUBLIC POLICY

Get the Scoop on How Antitrust Laws Really Work in China

Pre-order the new China Antitrust Law Journal from LexisNexis today

Tuesday, May 9, 2017



TOP NEWS

Analysis

Meet Trump's 10 Picks For The Federal Bench

With a successful U.S. Supreme Court confirmation in his rearview mirror and dozens of empty federal court seats ahead, U.S. President Donald Trump made his first major move Monday toward remaking the judiciary with conservative jurists. Here, Law360 looks at the president's 10 federal court nominees. Read more »

Yates Warned White House Flynn Could Be 'Blackmailed'

Former acting Attorney General Sally Yates warned the White House as early as Jan. 26 that ex-National Security Advisor Michael Flynn could "essentially be blackmailed" for lying about his contact with a Russian official, the longtime Department of Justice lawyer testified Monday, reviving scrutiny about why President

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Kim Gilbert
Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer
Baker Botts
BakerHostetler
Baron & Budd
Bergeson & Campbell
Bingham Greenebaum
Boardman & Clark
Bradley Arant
Carothers DiSante
Clifford Chance
Cooley
Cotchett Pitre
Covington & Burling
DLA Piper
Davis Polk
Debevoise & Plimpton
Dentons
Dewey & LeBoeuf

Donald Trump waited until mid-February to fire the high-ranking official. [Read more »](#)

Trump Has First Service Secretary As Senate OKs USAF Pick

Heather Wilson will soon take the controls of the U.S. Air Force after the Senate confirmed her as secretary Monday, the first service secretary confirmed under President Donald Trump. [Read more »](#)

Yates Defends Stance On Immigration Ban That Got Her Fired

Former acting Attorney General Sally Yates on Monday defended her decision to defy President Donald Trump over his immigration ban in an unusually public standoff in late January that led to her firing, suggesting at a Senate hearing that Trump's campaign rhetoric targeting Muslims rendered the executive order unconstitutional. [Read more »](#)

Analysis

EPA, DOI Join Congress' Push To Overhaul Science Panels

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of the Interior said Monday they intend to shake up some science advisory panels with an eye toward bringing in new blood, a move that's in line with congressional Republicans' recent efforts to change how federal regulators use science to make rules. [Read more »](#)

Trump Picks Pa. Regulator, McConnell Aide For FERC Slots

President Donald Trump tapped the chief of the national association of state utility regulators and the U.S. Senate majority leader's energy policy pointman on Monday night to fill commissioner vacancies on the currently quorumless Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. [Read more »](#)

Suit Says Trump EO Gives Churches Preferential Treatment

DiCello Levitt
Farella Braun
Fletcher Heald
Fox Rothschild
Fried Frank
Genova Burns
Gibson Dunn
Goldstein & Russell
Goodwin
Graham & Dunn
Grant & Eisenhofer
Greenberg Traurig
Hogan Lovells
Holland & Knight
Hunton & Williams
Jones Day
K&L Gates
Kanji & Katzen
Kasowitz Benson
Kelly Rammel
Kirkland & Ellis
Latham & Watkins
McGuireWoods
Miller Nash
Morgan Lewis
Munger Tolles
O'Melveny & Myers
Pillsbury Winthrop
Proskauer Rose
Reed Smith
Seward & Kissel
Shumaker Loop
Sidley Austin
Snell & Wilmer
Stradley Ronon
Sullivan & Cromwell
Thomas & Libowitz
Troutman Sanders

An atheist nonprofit has sued the Trump administration in Wisconsin federal court, accusing the president of giving churches unconstitutionally preferential tax treatment with his new executive order easing enforcement of a decades-old rule prohibiting overt political endorsements by religious groups. [Read more »](#)

Trump Nominates 10 Judges In Move To Reshape Judiciary

President Donald Trump has started to expand his impact on the federal judiciary, announcing another 10 judicial nominees Monday to courts nationwide, including the Seventh and Eleventh circuits. [Read more »](#)

BANKING & SECURITIES

High Court Asked To Weigh In On Nevada Foreclosure Law

A Nevada-based property trust has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to review a Ninth Circuit decision invalidating a Nevada law that gives lien priority to homeowners associations seeking back dues in foreclosure, telling the high court that the ruling has left hundreds of foreclosure-related cases in legal limbo. [Read more »](#)

Analysis

SEC Allowing Bigger Bets With Leveraged ETF Approval

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission surprised many last week by approving a quadruple-leveraged exchange-traded fund after years of misgivings about highly leveraged products, but experts said it could be the first of many as the agency warms up to often controversial innovation in investment products. [Read more »](#)

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL

Feds Slam Denial Of Direct Appeal In Kids' Climate Suit

Weil Gotshal
Wexler Wallace
Williams & Connolly

COMPANIES

21st Century Fox Inc.
American Civil Liberties Union
American Legislative Exchange Council
Bright House Networks LLC
Center for Biological Diversity Inc.
Comcast Corporation
Deutsche Bank AG
FedEx Corporation
Federalist Society
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Inc.
Food Network
Humana Inc.
Intercontinental Exchange Inc.
JPMorgan Chase & Co.
Lockheed Martin
Marvell Technology Group, Ltd.
MasterCard Incorporated
Mercury Public Affairs
Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund
Moelis & Co.
Morgan Stanley
NVIDIA Corporation
National Association of Broadcasters
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of State Regulatory Utility Commissioners
National Immigration Law Center
National Rural Electric Cooperative Association
New York Times Co.

The federal government on Friday objected to an Oregon magistrate judge's recommendation to deny a request to certify questions for appellate review in a youth-driven suit that alleges the U.S. violated the Constitution by failing to protect future generations from climate change. [Read more »](#)

Enviros Tell Rick Perry To Refocus DOE Market Study

Six environmental organizations wrote a letter to Secretary of Energy Rick Perry on Monday objecting to a study he requested on electricity markets and reliability, saying it was designed to be "dangerously biased" in favor of fossil fuel and traditional energy sources at the expense of renewables. [Read more »](#)

DOI Asks Public To Weigh In On Monument Designations

The U.S. Department of the Interior said Friday that for the first time, the government will open a formal public comment period for national monument designations under the Antiquities Act, including a Utah monument backed by several Native American tribes and other monuments President Donald Trump wants reviewed. [Read more »](#)

EPA Asks For Stay In Maine Water Quality Row

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Friday asked a Maine federal judge for a 90-day stay in the state's suit challenging the EPA's tightening of its water quality standards for tribal waters, so it can review the policy. [Read more »](#)

MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT

Sinclair Absorbs Tribune Media In \$3.9B Deal

Sinclair Broadcast Group Inc. has agreed to buy Tribune Media Co. for roughly \$3.9 billion, the companies said Monday, in a deal that creates a U.S. broadcasting giant and will potentially

Pacific Legal Foundation
Philip Morris USA Inc.
Royal Bank of Canada
S.A.C. Capital Advisors LP
Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.
T-Mobile USA Inc.
The Blackstone Group L.P.
The Boeing Company
The Cato Corporation
Time Warner Cable
Tribune Media Co.
Turner Broadcasting System Inc.
Twitter Inc.
Union of Concerned Scientists
Verizon Communications
Vodafone Group plc
Volkswagen
Washington Post Co.
Wells Fargo & Co.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services
California Environmental Protection Agency
Central Intelligence Agency
Colorado Public Utilities Commission
Defense Intelligence Agency
Department of Commerce
Executive Office of the President
Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Federal Trade Commission
Food and Drug Administration

require divestitures in order to pass regulatory muster. [Read more »](#)

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

DC Circ. Pumps Brakes On Heavy Duty Truck Rule Litigation

The D.C. Circuit on Monday granted a bid by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to pause challenges to greenhouse gas and fuel efficiency standards for new large and heavy-duty vehicles for 90 days. [Read more »](#)

EMPLOYMENT

Christie Guts Police, Firefighters' Pension Bill

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie on Monday gutted a bipartisan bill that would have established a membership-based trustee board to manage the police and firefighters public pension fund, arguing in a conditional veto that the measure undermines the taxpayer-friendly pension reforms he enacted that riled unions. [Read more »](#)

2 More Ex-NJ College Staffers Sue Over Retaliatory Firings

Another pair of former staff members at Essex County College in New Jersey have asserted whistleblower claims against the school in state court lawsuits alleging they were fired last year for helping to produce a report into unlawful conduct related to the college's finances. [Read more »](#)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

NJ Housing Official Admits Using HUD Funds On Gift Cards

The head of the Ocean City Housing Authority admitted Monday in New Jersey federal court to using U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

Hopi Tribe
Internal Revenue Service
NAFTA
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
National Nuclear Security Administration
National Security Council
Navajo Nation
Nevada Legislature
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Sandia National Laboratories
Securities and Exchange Commission
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Department of Energy
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
U.S. Senate
U.S. Sentencing Commission
U.S. Supreme Court
Ute Indian Tribe
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

Development funds to cover the purchase of dozens of MasterCard gift cards she used for personal expenses or provided to family and friends, acting U.S. Attorney William E. Fitzpatrick announced. [Read more »](#)

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

US Cautions Canada Against Retaliatory Coal Tariffs

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross on Saturday urged Canada to refrain from imposing politically motivated tariffs on U.S. products in response to new duties on softwood lumber just a day after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau revealed he was considering a crackdown on U.S. coal. [Read more »](#)

Crabbers Allowed To Join Suit Over Seafood Origin Rule

A D.C. federal judge on Monday allowed Alaska-based crab harvesters to intervene as defendants in a suit challenging a regulation that requires importers to trace the origin of seafood brought into the U.S., saying the harvesters' economic interest in the rule may not completely align with government efforts to defend it. [Read more »](#)

TAX

Sen. Tester Blasts Federal Online Sales Tax Bill

Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., sent a letter Friday urging President Donald Trump and Senate leadership to oppose a bill that would allow states to enforce sales taxes on online sales in order to purportedly level the playing field for brick-and-mortar stores, calling it an expensive regulatory burden that would hurt online businesses in his state. [Read more »](#)

OECD Launches Tool To Report Loopholes In Int'l Tax Accord

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development on Friday launched a facility

for reporting avoidance schemes to get around the Common Reporting Standard for tax information signed by more than 60 international jurisdictions. [Read more »](#)

Ex-Rep. Using Twitter To Harass Witness, Gov't Says

Former U.S. Representative Melvin Reynolds is using Twitter to harass a government witness and his attorney, prosecutors told the Illinois federal judge overseeing their misdemeanor tax case against the former politician on Monday. [Read more »](#)

IMMIGRATION

4th Circ. Hears Oral Arguments In Travel Ban Appeal

The Fourth Circuit on Monday heard oral arguments in an appeal over President Donald Trump's travel ban, with some of the judges on the en banc panel grilling the government's attorney on the president's past statements, and others quizzing the plaintiffs attorney on issues of standing and national security. [Read more »](#)

Texas Sues Local Pols To Enforce Sanctuary Cities Ban

The ink had barely dried on Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's signature on a law banning sanctuary cities in the Lone Star State on Monday when the state attorney general lodged a preemptive suit against Austin and Travis County leadership and law enforcement over their refusal to enforce federal immigration laws. [Read more »](#)

Chinese Christian Urges High Court To Review Persecution

A shoe factory worker who fled China after being arrested for attending illegal Christian house-church gatherings has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to reconsider a Tenth Circuit

decision that held his circumstances didn't amount to persecution. [Read more »](#)

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

FCC Commish Sees Chance To 'Clean Up' Universal Service

Republican Federal Communications Commissioner Michael O'Rielly said that he sees the departure of the CEO of the company responsible for administering the FCC's Universal Service Fund that promotes digital access as a chance for the administrator to "clean up its act." [Read more »](#)

HBO's John Oliver Blasts FCC Open Internet Rollback Plans

Late-night host John Oliver in a Sunday segment took to task the Federal Communications Commission chairman's plan to undo the legal basis for net neutrality rules, calling for the public to "take this matter into our own hands" and file comments pushing back [Read more »](#)

Verizon Spectrum Grants Challenged At High Court

The U.S. Supreme Court should review whether the D.C. Circuit erred in letting the Federal Communications Commission off the hook after the agency ignored its own foreign ownership rules by approving mobile spectrum acquisitions made by Verizon Wireless that allowed an anti-competitive scheme to proceed, a regional telecom provider has argued. [Read more »](#)

Writers Guild Knocks FCC Probe Of Colbert's Trump Joke

The Writers Guild of America on Monday criticized the Federal Communications Commission for its intention to investigate whether a joke by talk show host and Writers Guild member Stephen Colbert is obscene. [Read more »](#)

T-Mobile CEO Lobbies FCC For Quick Auction Transition

T-Mobile's president and CEO, John Legere, has pushed Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai and Commissioners Mignon Clyburn and Michael O'Rielly to make way for the company to begin deploying on the spectrum it won in the airwaves auction. [Read more »](#)

PEOPLE

Shumaker Loop Launches Public Affairs Group In Florida

Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP on Monday announced the launch of a public affairs group in Florida that will counsel both public- and private-sector clients on advocacy and issue management, in addition to providing governmental relations services. [Read more »](#)

Morgan Lewis Partner Shortlisted For Bharara Replacement

President Donald Trump's administration is considering nominating Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP partner David I. Miller to be the next U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, sources said Monday, as the process for replacing Preet Bharara is appearing to heat up. [Read more »](#)

DLA Piper Adds Sidley Austin Partner To IP Subgroup

DLA Piper has added a former Sidley Austin LLP partner to its Washington, D.C., and Atlanta offices, the firm announced, deepening its intellectual property offerings particularly in the privacy and security aspects of health information. [Read more »](#)

EXPERT ANALYSIS

In Trump Era, States Take Lead On Social Cost Of Carbon

The social cost of carbon is a measure intended to quantify the effect that a single ton of carbon

dioxide emissions has on climate change. Even as the Trump administration has disbanded the federal interagency working group on this issue, the states have been stepping up their efforts, say Seth Belzley and Stephen Humes of Holland & Knight LLP [Read more »](#)

Making H-1B Administrative Changes: Easier Said Than Done

Language in the recent "Buy American, Hire American" executive order suggests that an expansion of visas is not the administration's preference for H-1B reform. Instead it prefers addressing visa shortages by changing how they are allocated. Therefore, the natural question any lawyer would ask is whether the goal of allocating visas based on wage or skill level can be accomplished administratively, says Leon Fresco of Holland & Knight LLP. [Read more »](#)

Stability For Calif. Cap-And-Trade Program, For Now

Thanks to a California appellate court's recent decision in California Chamber of Commerce v. State Air Resources Board, the future of California's cap-and-trade program looks a little brighter. The opinion provides at least temporary stability to a key portion of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, say Robert Hines and Ashley Breakfield of Farella Braun & Martel LLP. [Read more »](#)

Arizona's Off-Label Promotion Law May Hinge On Gottlieb

As the U.S. Food and Drug Administration sought feedback on whether drug and device makers should be allowed to promote their products for off-label uses, Arizona recently passed a law allowing truthful off-label promotion. But the law's impact may depend on whether Scott Gottlieb is confirmed as FDA commissioner, says Alexis Kellert of Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP. [Read more »](#)

6 Calif. Employment Bills Employers Should Track

The California Legislature recently introduced a number of employment-related bills, most of which increase protection for employees and consequently provide more exposure to lawsuits for employers. Employers should expect little relief from Democratic Party leaders and should proactively guard against what's to come, say Dave Carothers and Karimah Lamar of Carothers DiSante & Freudenberger LLP. [Read more »](#)

LEGAL INDUSTRY

Streamlining Salvages Dewey Case On Second Try

After their first try ended in a mistrial, prosecutors from the Manhattan district attorney's office trimmed the fat and the key defendant from their controversial retrial of the former leadership of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP — and that decision netted a modest victory five years in the making Monday when jurors convicted the defunct firm's former chief financial officer on felony fraud charges. [Read more »](#)

Weary Dewey Jurors Say Case Against Sanders Far Clearer

After deliberating for five days at the end of the lengthy retrial of two former executives at Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, multiple jurors said Monday they felt New York state prosecutors had done a far better job proving their case against Joel Sanders, whose name one noted "was on everything," than they had against Stephen DiCarmine. [Read more »](#)

Jury Convicts Ex-Dewey CFO, Frees Exec Director

A Manhattan jury on Monday issued a split verdict in the long-running criminal case against top executives of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, acquitting the defunct law firm's executive director but convicting its former chief financial officer on fraud and conspiracy charges. [Read more »](#)

Reed Smith Unveils Programs For New Parents

Reed Smith LLP rolled out new benefits aimed at employees returning from maternity leave, joining a trend among large law firms seeking to retain lawyers who've recently had children by easing the transition back to the BigLaw grind. [Read more »](#)

Plaintiffs Attys In Chicago, Cleveland Team Up For New Firm

Former Grant & Eisenhofer PA director Adam Levitt teamed up with members of The DiCello Law Firm to launch DiCello, Levitt & Casey LLC, a new legal venture specializing in plaintiff advocacy in a broad array of legal practice areas, the firm announced Monday. [Read more »](#)

Plaintiffs Bar Perspective: Baron & Budd's Todd Kale

Young lawyers need to understand that you most likely will not get rich serving as a plaintiffs attorney. It's not like you see on TV — this isn't an episode of "Suits," says Todd Kale of Baron & Budd PC. [Read more »](#)

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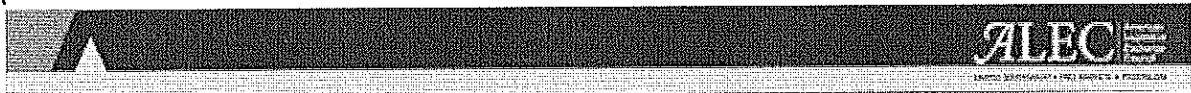
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Center to Restore the Balance of Government - May 9, 2017



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Expert Opinion

A Balanced Budget Amendment - A 2017 Recap of the Road to 34

Loren Enns | State Campaigns Director and Field Operative at Balanced Budget Amendment Task Force



[Read the Full Article](#)

The 2017 legislative session was filled with action for the balanced budget amendment (BBA) campaign. Going into January, BBA had 28 of the 34 state Article V applications needed to compel Congress to call an amendments convention suggesting the likelihood of reaching 30 to 32 applications was quite high. [Click here for more.](#)



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Expert Resource

Federalism: "When We Destroy it, We Place Liberty at Peril"

Representative Ken Ivory | UT - 47



[Take the Course](#)

In 2014, the Utah State Legislature passed H.B. 120, which permits members of the Utah State Bar to receive up to two hours of continuing legal education (CLE) credit for free from the UVU Center for Constitutional Studies. Attorneys in other states may be eligible to apply to receive CLE credit. The initial one-hour course is taught in a series of six videos.

Take the course and join us as we restore structural balance to the greatest governing system ever devised.



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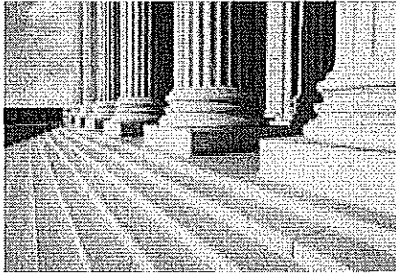


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Expert Insight

The "Runaway Convention": A Most Tenacious Myth

Karla Jones | Director, International Relations and Federalism Task Force



The universal roadblock that prevents Article V applications from reaching the 34-state threshold is the myth of the "runaway convention." This fiction first appeared in the early 1960s and has taken hold of the imaginations of many who oppose Article V process. For a comprehensive list of state applications, see the Article V Library [here](#).



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Expert Opinion

Assessing Pirated Content is not Worth the Risk

Karla Jones | Intellectual Property



Intellectual property rights (IPR) were so important to America's Founders, they included them in the U.S. Constitution in Article I, Section 8:

"To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries."

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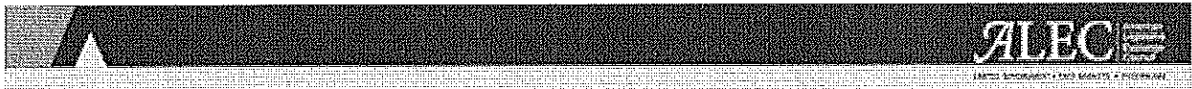
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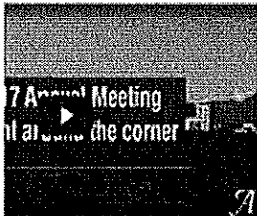
Are you ready for the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit? Fill out a short survey to let us know how we can make it even better for 2018!

[Complete Your Survey Here](#)

[Video](#)

Annual Meeting is Right Around the Corner

[How I Registration Fees](#) | [Printable Agenda](#) | A Sarah Wood Production



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Whether you come to ALEC Meetings for policy prescriptions for your state or to meet up with us, join us July 19 - 21 in Denver, Colorado and leave a better legislator. [Click here to register to attend](#)



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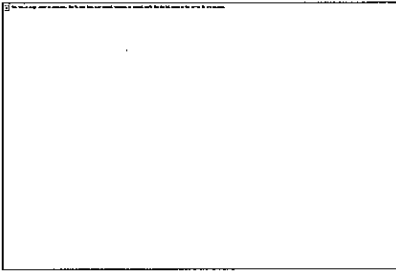


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Pirated Content is Not Worth the Risk

Intellectual Property



Intellectual property rights (IPR) were so important to America's Founders, they included the U.S. Constitution in Article I, Section 8:

"To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries."

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e FCC to Stop Regulating the Net Like it's 1934

nschild | *The Hill*



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"I'm into discipline
Got a Bible in my hand and a bear
But if I finish all of my chores and y
thine
Then tonight we're gonna party like

This stanza from Weird Al Yankovic's *"Paradise"* is particularly relevant to the net neutrality debate as both sides look back to bygone eras present in the modern age. In Weird Al's case, he's advocating a lifestyle that shuns modern technology in favor of choosing to live a simpler life. [Click here for more.](#)



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domWorks Legislator of the Week

Christina Hagan | OH - 50

Representative Christina Hagan is a native Ohioan and was born in Marlboro Township, Oh received her B.A. in Business Administration from Malone University. She is currently seekir 2018 to the U.S. House to represent the 16th Congressional District of Ohio. Click here for ti



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e Full Bio

Model Policy Spotlight

Temporary Health Insurance Risk Pool Act

Summary: This act creates a temporary health insurance state risk pool.

[Review the Model Policy](#)

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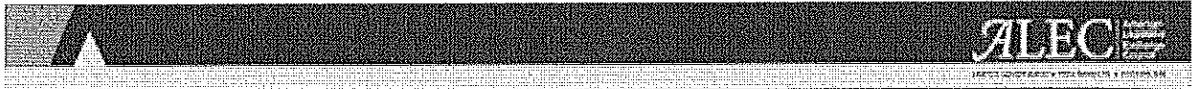
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Subject: Kirk, keep an eye on your inbox Wednesday for some exciting FCC resources

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Dear Kirk,

It was great seeing and talking with you during the Spring Task Force Summit. As expected, we had a number of great speakers and panels, including a lunchtime presentation from FCC Commissioner Michael O'Rielly.

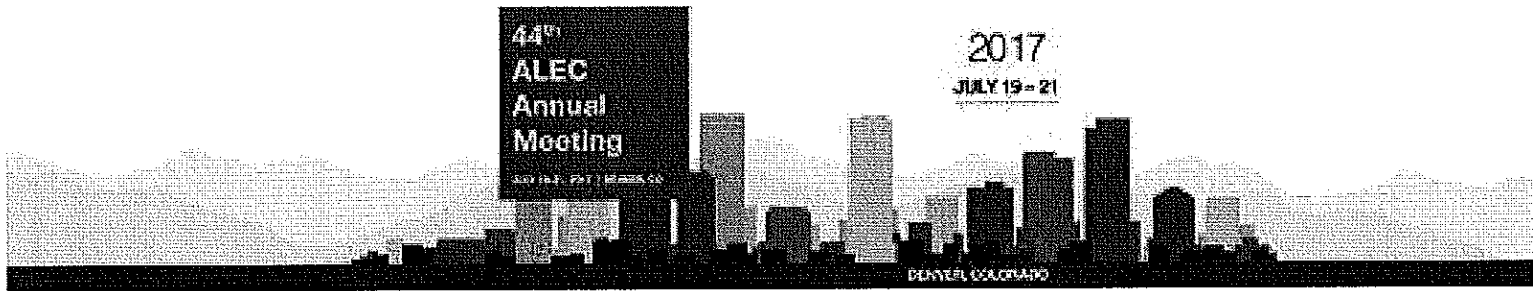
I am writing for a couple reasons. First, I want to alert you regarding resources for the FCC's Restoring Internet Freedom Order. As many of you know, the last newsletter contained a number of links to documents, stories, and other items. The next newsletter, which will arrive **this coming Wednesday**, will include more resources to help you engage with the FCC.

Second, as mentioned during the meeting, the Task Force is launching a working group to craft a Statement of Principles on Online Free Expression. The working group comes after an excellent discussion regarding the importance of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act and the need to preserve the internet as a space for free expression. If you are interested in joining the working group, please email me at jhauenschild@alec.org.

As always, if you have any questions regarding the topics raised in this email, or any other communications and technology-related issue, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Jonathon



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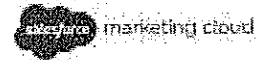
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Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Ronnie Lampard
CC: Montana Hyde
Subject: FW: Invite to Coalition for Public Safety's May 31st Event in Columbus
Attachments: Sensible Justice Invite - May 31 - Columbus.pdf

Dear Ohio ALEC Legislative Members,

I hope all of you are doing well.

I wanted to invite all of you to this event hosted by U.S. Justice Action Network at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium on May 31st at 6PM titled, "Law, Order, and Sensible Justice Roundtable." A reception will follow after the event. For additional information, please see the attached invitation. Thank you!

Ronnie

Ronald J. Lampard
Criminal Justice Reform Task Force Director
American Legislative Exchange Council
RLampard@ALEC.org
(571) 482-5028

Law, Order, and Sensible Justice Roundtable

HOSTED BY: COALITION FOR PUBLIC
SAFETY, THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE AND
THE OHIO JUSTICE & POLICY

Hear from criminal justice practitioners about how we can
improve Ohio's justice system.

Reception to follow!

DATE & TIME

Wednesday,
May 31
6-8 p.m. EST

LOCATION

Ohio Statehouse Atrium
1 Capitol Square
Columbus, Ohio 43215

FEATURING

Carter
Stewart

Former U.S. Attorney for the
Southern District of Ohio

Senator
John Eklund

Ohio State Senate,
District 18

Judge John W.
"Tim" Rudduck

Clinton County
Common Pleas Court

Additional panelists to be announced

Please RSVP by [clicking here](#) and following the registration instructions.



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Getting to the Near Future, and Beyond

The promise of the world of tomorrow is just an empty promise long held out as being made good. But now we really do stand on the precipice of the future. We can peer into the near future with clarity, optimism and certainty. Everything we know today will change, be reimagined and be used in new ways with greater access. From work to play, powerful networks and new tech applications will be the foundation for the next generation of services. How so? Take a look here for a glimpse into the near future.

But it takes allowing people to operate in a truly free market to make that near future the reality of today. That is to say the innovation needed to get to the near future will not happen by accident, it will not happen with any sort of central planning and it will not happen without the states.

According to CompTIA's CyberStates , the definitive guide to national, state and metropolitan area tech sector and tech workforce analytics, while many tech issues are addressed at the federal level, the states play a significant role as well. The states show a wide variance as to which are performing the best where innovation and policy are concerned.

The CompTIA ranking indicates Oregon's economic impact by tech is larger by a significant margin than in any other state. Washington clocks in with the second largest economic impact, with Massachusetts, California and Colorado following close behind. Innovation per capita is part of the reason, with California coming in first, followed by Massachusetts, Washington, Colorado and New Jersey.

The top states for tech sector employment is also an important part of the story, with California (1,186,470 employees) again leading the pack, followed by Texas (592,960), New York (377,740), Florida (318,340) and Massachusetts (300,630).

This ranking is made even more interesting when compared to the Consumer Technology Association's. This scorecard ranks the states while keeping in mind, "New technology and innovative online platforms are threatened by overreaching mandates and outdated rules in local, state and federal governments. We educate policymakers to ensure the innovation economy is protected from laws and regulations which delay, restrict or ban the development of technologies."

Earning top marks as states that are "Innovative Champions" in no particular order include Utah, Colorado, North Dakota, Michigan, Washington, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. The laggards are noted in no particular order as Alaska, Hawaii, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and West Virginia.

Put these lists together and it seems some states are coasting on past good policy that is not keeping up or headed in the wrong direction= 2threatening our near future. California jumps out as the most obvious. Meanwhile, Massachusetts, Colorado and Washington seem to be living up to their potential and trying to grow from there.

States will need to become increasingly diligent in making sure current laws and regulations do not hinder the advancement of innovation. In addition, new proposals will need to be viewed through an innovation lens, taking a hard look to make sure new proposed laws or regulations do not stand in the way of creative ideas, processes, business models, services or products. A good start is to take a look at the model policies created by the ALEC Communications and Technology Task Force to determine what a state needs. Work needs to be done in many places. Without determination by legislators and regulators, the promise of the near future will devolve into a present failure.

Sincerely,

Bartlett Cleland



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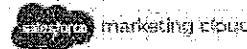


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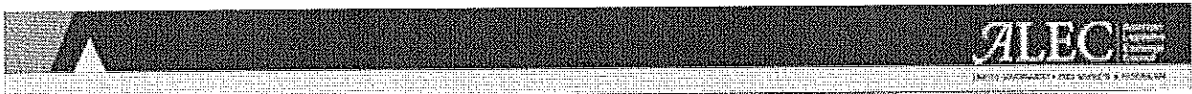
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A Letter From the Desk of, *Jonathon Hauenschild*

Dear Members of the Communications & Technology Task Force,

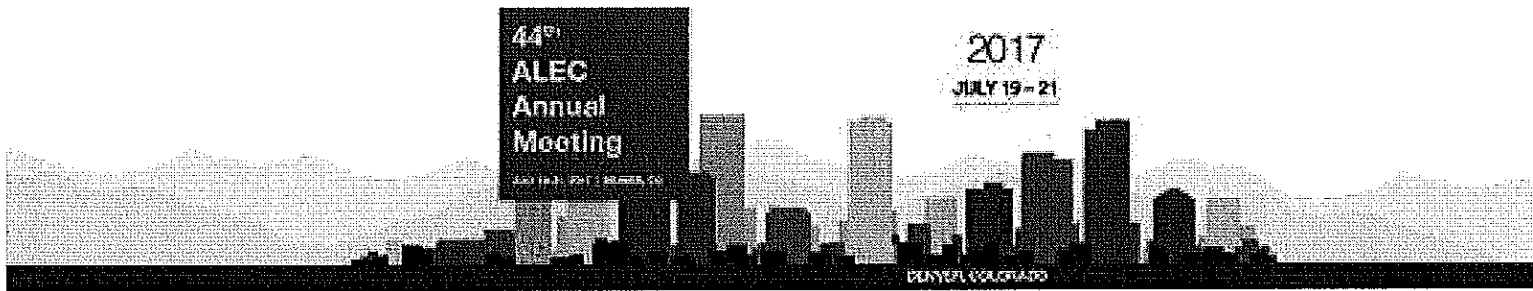
It was great seeing all of you a couple weeks ago. As I write this email, I am sitting at the Federalist Society's Executive Branch Review Conference. The speakers are discussing how to restore the balance of legislative authority in the federal government, how agencies have encroached upon legislative authority and how reform can unleash American innovation.

This newsletter is another resource for you relating to the Federal Communications Commission's Restoring Internet Freedom proposed rule. The FCC will vote on the NPRM tomorrow, which opens the period for comments to be filed. The resources in this newsletter include a paragraph by paragraph breakdown of the NPRM and the FCC's questions and requests for comments, a list of questions state legislators can use to gather data from state utility commissions and attorney general to help answer some of the FCC's questions, and more.

For legislators who want to help answer some of the FCC's questions, please let me know and I am more than willing to help you out. My email address is jhauenschild@alec.org.

Regards,

Jonathon Paul Hauenschild, J.D.
Director, Task Force on Communications & Technology



NEW: Communications and Technology Video

Net Neutrality 101

Jonathon Hauenschild



The net neutrality debate is really about keeping the "net neutral". Watch this video to gain expert insight into the current "free the net" debate happening now at the FCC.

Watch the Full Video



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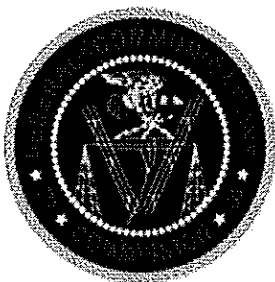


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Get Your FCC Resources First

Restoring Internet Freedom, Questions for Legislators

Click here for your complimentary copy



Click below and download your free copy of a comprehensive list of questions. This file is for legislators who want to help the FCC, they can gather data from various state commissions, agencies, and the attorney general. The questions found in this article are designed to help guide state legislators gather that data in a way that will be useful to the FCC. Click here for your copy!



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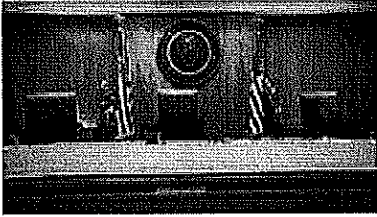


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FCC Questions for Legislators

NPRM Requests for Comments

Click here for your complimentary copy



An NPRM can be complex, and challenging to understand. This resource is designed to highlight the subjects where the FCC seeks comments, illustrative questions asked by the FCC, and how those questions relate to the FCC's intent to restore internet freedom. Each question is divided by NPRM paragraph and the generalized category of information sought within the question. As a caveat, the categorization is not official. The categorization is based on my opinions and best guesses.



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Featured ALEC Member

ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Senator Kris Langer | SD-25



Senator Kris Langer is a native South Dakotan and was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She received her B.S. from South Dakota State University. Outside of her work in the legislature, Sen. Langer works as a Broker Associate at Keller Williams Realty.

In 2013, Sen. Langer was elected to the South Dakota House of Representatives where she served until 2017 when she was elected to the South Dakota Senate where she serves as Majority Whip. She is also an active member of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). Sen. Langer has cosponsored legislation focusing on significantly improving educational and economic opportunities for all South Dakotans. Click here for the full bio.



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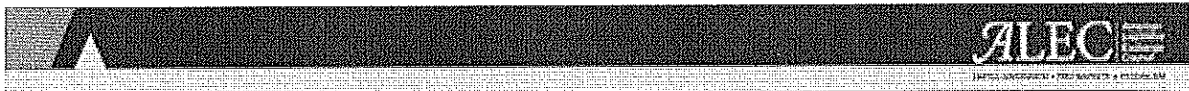
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44th
ALEC
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Meeting

JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO

2017

JULY 19 - 21

DENVER, COLORADO

Kirk, have you registered for the ALEC Annual Meeting yet? Don't wait! We are already at record breaking numbers for Public Sector registrations. Don't miss out on the opportunity to network and engage with legislators from across the country. Early bird rates end Tuesday, June 6.

See you in Denver!

[Click Here to Register](#)

IEW: ALEC Video

Net Neutrality 101

Jonathon Hauenschield | FCC | Net Neutrality



[Watch the Full Video](#)

In light of the Federal Communications Commission's Restoring Internet Freedom proposed rule going to a vote today, Task force Director, Jonathon Hauenschield breaks down what the net neutrality debate is really about.



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Expert Opinion

Macron Inspires France to Rise

Marla Jones | *The Hill* | International Relations



[Read the Full Article](#)

"Both Trump and Macron never held public office before their inaugurations spending their working lives in the private sector. However, both fashioned successful movements pledging to upend the political dysfunction in their respective countries. Macron established a new party En Marché! (Onward!), and Trump refashioned the Republican Party to advance his agenda."= A.....Read more.



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Featured ALEC Member

ILEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Senator Kris Langer | SD-25



[Read the Full Bio](#)

Senator Kris Langer is a native South Dakotan and was born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She received her B.S. from South Dakota State University. Outside of her work in the legislature, Sen. Langer works as a Broker Associate at Keller Williams Realty. [Click here for the full bio.](#)



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Expert Insight

FTC Takes on Economic Liberty with Introduction of New Task Force

Tom McLaughlin | Trade



[Read the Full Article](#)

On March 16, 2017, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) concurrently rolled out a task force and accompanying resource webpage focusing on economic liberty, with a concentration on occupational licensing reform to advocate for public education and change on this contentious topic.



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ILEC Remembers

ILEC Remembers Representative Forristall

Representative Greg Forristall - 10-22 - February 15, 1950 – May 10, 2017



"We at ALEC are saddened by the news of Representative Forristall's passing as he was such an important and consistent presence at our meetings and within our organization," said Lisa B. Nelson, CEO of ALEC. "We extend our deepest condolences to his family during this difficult time."



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[Read the Full Statement](#)

Stay Updated on All Things Annual Meeting

44th ALEC Annual Meeting

[Register](#) - [Registration Fees](#) - [Agenda](#) - [Travel](#) - [Speakers](#) - [For Kids](#)

Do you have an issue you would like to see discussed at our Annual Meeting? Let us know! Contact **Jeff Lambert** at jlambert@alec.org to find out more about hosting a workshop at our Annual Meeting in Denver.

JUST ANNOUNCED: Dr. William Bennett has been officially added to our already exciting line up of speakers. [Click here](#) to see the full list.

Bring your Legislative Staff to Denver!

The Legislative Staff Fellowship provides participants the tools necessary to be successful in their careers, learn about free market principles and build lasting relationships with peers from around the country.

The fellowship includes: Hotel costs, meals, registration fees and up to \$500 in travel reimbursements.

Contact Lacey White to find out more.
white@alec.org

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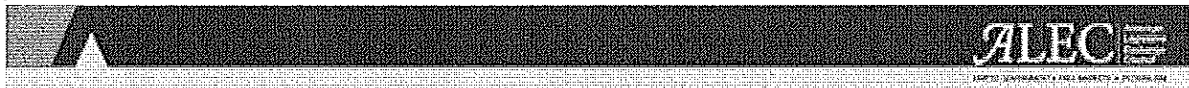
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Center to Protect Free Speech - May, 23 2017



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ALEC Task Force Meeting Update

2017 Spring Task Force Wrap-Up

Charlotte, North Carolina - 2017 ALEC Spring Task Force Summit

- Donor privacy and campus speech were top topics of discussion.
- Amended "Resolution in Support of Nonprofit Donor Privacy" passed the Civil Justice Task Force and is now pending board approval.
- Campus model policy "Forming Open and Robust University Minds (FORUM) Act" passed the Education and Workforce Development Task Force and is now pending board approval.
- The Center attended both the Education Task Force and Civil Justice Task Force and moderated a panel on campus speech.
- A big thank you to Representative Kim Coleman, Alliance Defending Freedom, Foundation for Individual Rights in Education and Young Americans for Liberty for participating in the campus speech panel!

In the News

Emmett Talks Campus Free Speech in the Michigan Senate

Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee | Campus Free Speech



Watch the Full Speech

Shelby Emmett, Director of the ALEC Center to Protect Free Speech returned to her home state of Michigan and joined Stanley Kurtz in schooling the Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee [starts at 54:10] on the importance of free speech to students.

Contributor for Mlive, [Brian McVicar](#) quotes Emmett's response to Sen. Steve Bieda, D-Warren's statement concerning the lack of need for campus free speech laws, "I think it's horrific that a young person has to take time out of their day to go sue somebody because their fundamental rights were violated".



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What We're Doing in the States

Free Speech Issue Briefings in the States

South Carolina | Michigan | Utah | Contact Daniel Turner for More Info

- We are excited to launch a series of free speech issue briefings for state legislators at state capitols across the United States! These briefings cover the issues of campus speech, donor privacy and commercial speech.
- So far, we have held briefings in South Carolina, Michigan and Utah. Thank you Sen. Colbeck, Rep. Riley, Rep. Runestad, Mackinac Center, Alliance Defending Freedom and Young Americans for Liberty for helping make the Michigan briefing a success! Thank you ALEC's Center for State Fiscal Reform, Rep.

Coleman, Rep. Thurston and Matt Miller of the Goldwater Institute for your help and participation in the Utah briefing!

- We have already lined up issue briefings in additional states. If you are interested in having an issue briefing in your state on free speech, please contact us at dturmer@alec.org.

ALEC Working Group Update

Working with the Center to Protect Free Speech

[Click Here to Join I Free Speech Working Group](#)



[Click Here to Join](#)

Thank you to all of our members for the overwhelming interest in joining the Free Speech working group! Keep an eye out for the first free speech working group email, closer to Annual Meeting.

If you are interested in joining, please contact us. We welcome the involvement of all who are interested in fighting to protect the freedom of speech.



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Expert Insight

Why You Need Free Speech to Find the Best Sandwich or Hotel

The Federalist | Sam Peak | Commercial Free Speech



[Read the Full Article](#)

High five to Sam Peak, who was the Center's first intern this spring! He recently finished his internship with us and went on author an excellent article on commercial speech that was published in The Federalist! In the piece, Sam clearly lays out why commercial speech is essential in layman= 2s terms (no easy feat, incidentally). Great work, Sam!

To learn about commercial speech from a legal perspective, check out the Washington Legal Foundation's Legal Opinion Letters on Commercial Speech.



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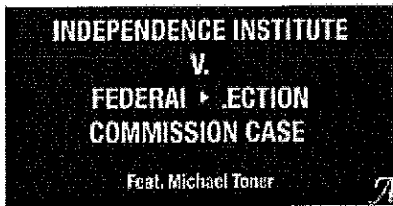


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Expert Explanation

Independence Institute Explained

Independence Institute v. Federal Election Commission Case | Feat. Michael Toner



Michael Toner explains the importance of the Independence Institute case. This video was also shown during the Civil Justice Task Force's luncheon on donor privacy at STFS.



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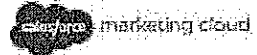
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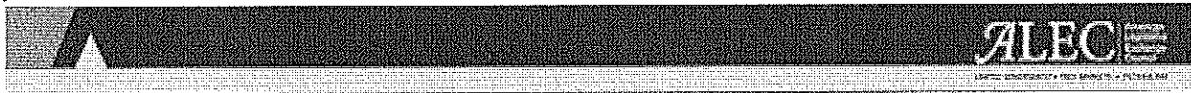
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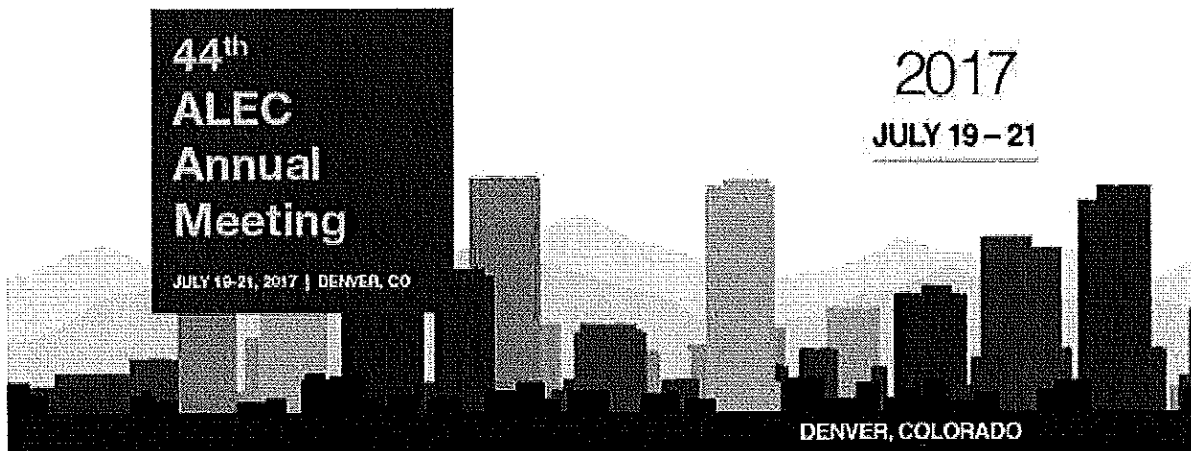
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Expert Insight

What's the Matter with Kansas Republicans?

The Weekly Standard | Stephen Moore | Tax Reform



[Read the Full Article](#)

"...the media and the teachers' unions and, alas, at least half the Republicans in Topeka now think the financial salvation for Kansas is to make the state look more like Connecticut and Illinois. If they have their way, that's exactly where the state is headed."...Read more.



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In the News

Emmett Talks Campus Free Speech in the Michigan Senate

Michigan Senate Judiciary Committee | Campus Free Speech



[Watch the Full Speech](#)

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Tax Reform Update

U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means Written Testimony

Jonathan Williams | United States House of Representatives | Tax Reform



[Read the Full
Testimony](#)

ALEC was approached to submit testimony for the House Committee on Ways and Means. Click here to read my written testimony. The primary focus is on our lessons learned from tax reform efforts in the states, where nearly 30 states have significantly reduced taxes in the past four years alone.

In addition to providing the widely respected ALEC Principles of Taxation, I discussed a tale of two states with radically different tax reform outcomes: North Carolina and Kansas. They are both important case studies as lawmakers consider federal reform.



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Featured ALEC Member

ALEC - FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Matthew Harper | CA-74



[Read the Full Article](#)

Matthew Harper has represented California's 74th Assembly District since 2014. He began his career in public service in 1998 when he was elected to the Huntington Beach Union High School District Board of Trustees. Click here for the full bio.



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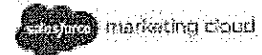


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JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO

JULY 19-21

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:
June 6, 2017

HOUSING CUT-OFF:
June 26, 2017

>> REGISTER NOW AT:
www.alec.org/meetings/

Join us for all the exciting
events happening in Denver!

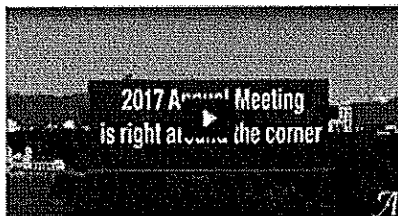
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ALEC Events Update

44th Annual Meeting Early Bird Rates End Soon!

[Meeting Summary](#) | [Agenda](#) | [Travel](#) | [Speakers](#) | [Attractions](#)



[Register Today](#)

It's not too late to join us for the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver. You still have time to save on your registration costs with the early bird rate!

Important Upcoming Dates

Early bird rate ends on June 6.

Housing block ends on June 26.



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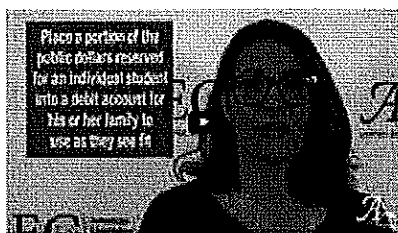


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NEW:ALEC Video

Education Policy 101: Education Savings Accounts (ESA)

Inez Feltcher Stepman | Education Policy Explained | A Sarah Wood Production



[Watch the Full Video](#)

Education and Workforce Development Taskforce Director Inez Feltcher Stepman breaks down what educational savings accounts (ESA) are. [Click here to learn more.](#)



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Expert Opinion

"Choice Counts": Education Director Documents Success of Charter Schools, Education Savings Accounts

Buck Sexton | Inez Feltcher Stepman | Education Savings Accounts



"There's an enormous amount of choice in Arizona, and we're seeing the results," Stepman continued. "Arizona kids, who are much poorer and more Hispanic than the Northeast, Massachusetts, Connecticut population, we're seeing that population of Arizona kids, when given choice, is performing close to the level of the privileged population near Harvard or Yale. Choice is making a huge difference." ...Read more.



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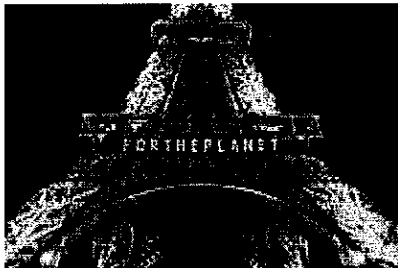


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Expert Insight

The Paris Climate Agreement is a Bad Deal for America

Kenneth Stein | Task Force Director, Energy, Environment and Agriculture



ALEC has long opposed the government picking winners and losers pointing to the fact that while energy consumption has continued to grow, air quality has also improved. Binding, multilateral treaties that restrict the free market and stifle American innovation harm not only today's energy generators, but also those of the future. Click here to find out more.



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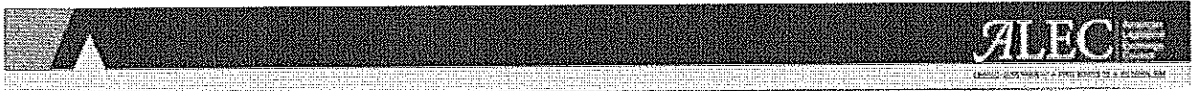
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Dear Members,

As the rhythms of the new administration start to take shape and new battle lines are drawn, I write to you about two very different but connected topics: Understanding Trump and how to get the best out of the administration, as well as the assault on free speech and the politics of disruption. Both help set the stage for the July Annual Meeting in Denver where there will be a strong focus on both federalism and free speech.

The Trump agenda has been met with strong—if not reflexive—opposition. On a daily basis, it seems the intensity has been turned up on absolutely everything. Free expression is under attack on college campuses; news media is being silenced by pressure campaigns targeting advertisers and legislators. For this reason, ALEC launched a new center, The Center to Protect Free Speech, in January. The purpose of the Center is to educate legislators and concerned citizens regarding the importance of free speech and promoting policies that ensure the ability for all to speak freely—even dissenters.

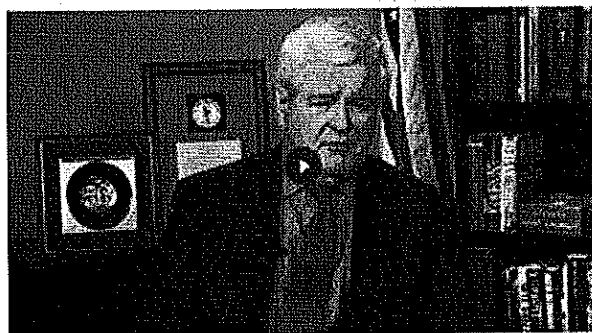
The vitriol is a lot to process. It is hard to understand, but as a part of the ALEC family, you know it's nothing new. What you see today is chapter and verse from the anti-ALEC playbook of old. **It is the same people and organizations implementing exactly the same tactics on new targets.** Listen for instance to this April 20 NPR broadcast with Color of Change Executive Director Rashad Robinson where he takes credit for the ouster of Bill O'Reilly—not on the grounds of the accusations against him, but because of Robinson's effective campaign execution.

I am pleased the Trump agenda thus far has been one focused on deregulation and federalism. When the president talks about cutting the budget or eliminating federal programs, it means his proposals give way for the states to lead and serve their people.

Please take a moment to view a message to ALEC members from author, Speaker Newt Gingrich:

Newt Gingrich's new book, *Understanding Trump*, (available on June 13) helps people understand

and decode the president. In the book, Newt shares that interpretations offered through the elitist lens pervasive in the media miss the intention and import of Trump proposals. Unlike any previous president, however, Trump works around the media and simply takes his message directly to the American people. Whether or not one agrees with the President's agenda, it is in all of our interest to better gain a better understanding of President Trump.



I hope you will order the book and engage in the process. Like President Trump we all have to stay focused on advancing our ideals of limited government, free markets and federalism.

Over the Memorial Day weekend I had the pleasure of paying a visit to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and was reminded of the thinking, 45 years ago when ALEC was founded, that discourse between American businesses and policymakers was a positive force for good. This thinking helped to foster a dialogue of how government can provide the necessary guiderails but stay out of the way to help businesses flourish.

If you have concerns about the current anti-corporate, anti-conservative protest landscape, please think of ALEC as a resource. ALEC weathered the storm and emerged stronger than before. We can provide you with the playbook, what to expect and how to navigate the challenges.

The challenges that meet the free market agenda are many, but we are also many. Their goal is to divide us—to diminish the strength of our network and keep us from working together. We can't let that happen. If we do, the result—as we've seen before—is an over-regulated, economically depressed America that takes advantage of taxpayers and delivers minimal gain. And, that is not the America Reagan often preached about.

We at ALEC have made a priority of educating companies and executives about intimidation tactics. Please look to ALEC as a resource and reach out to Chief Operating Officer Bill Meierling about how we can help you.

I hope to see you in Denver July 19-21 for our annual meeting. See you then!

Sincerely,

Lisa B. Nelson
Chief Executive Officer
American Legislative Exchange Council
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From: American Legislative Exchange Council

Sent: Thursday, June 1, 2017 12:01 PM

To: Rep48

Subject: ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson Invites You to Join us in Denver, July 19!

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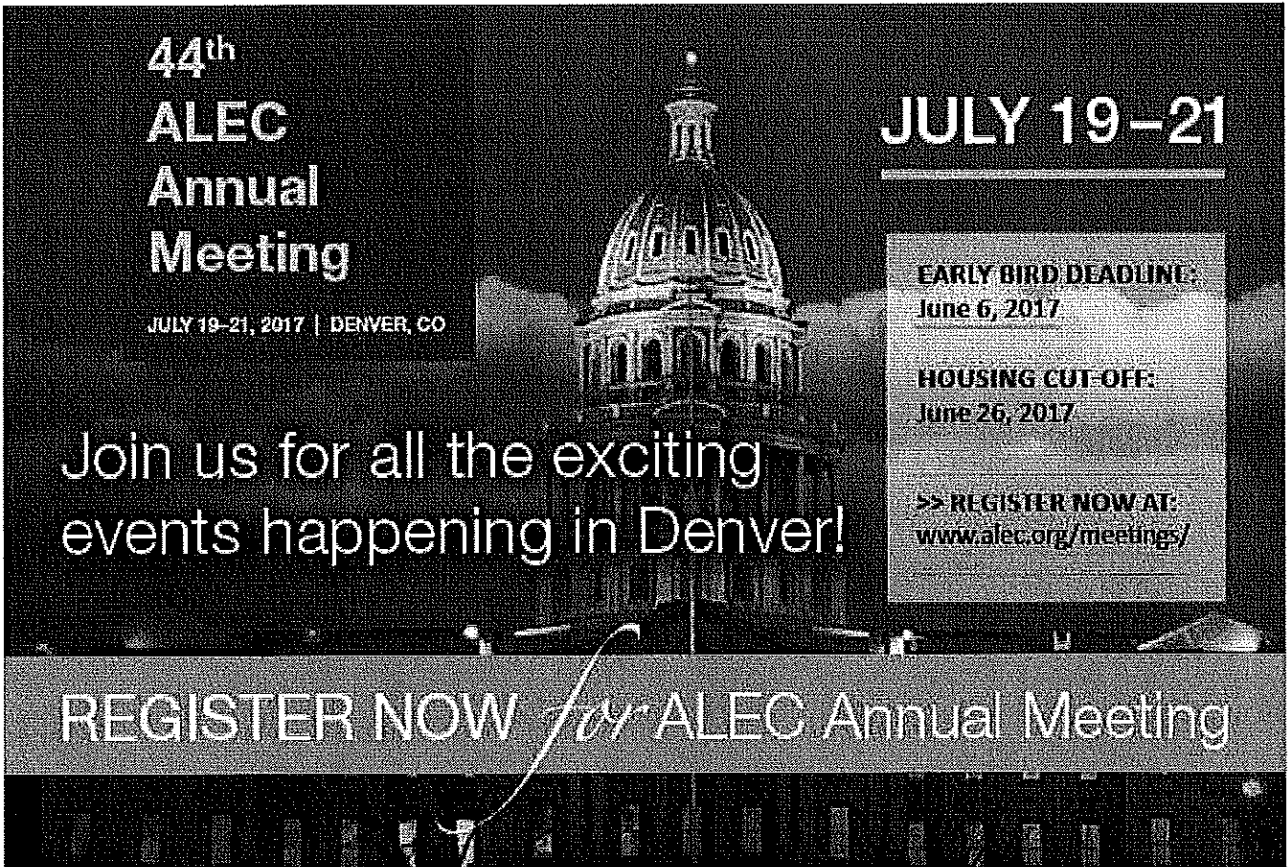
Digital Exchange - June 1, 2017



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**44th
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Annual
Meeting**

JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO

JULY 19-21

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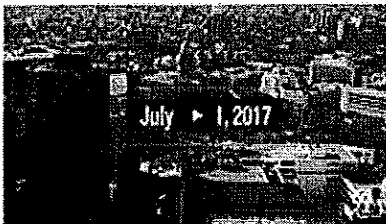
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ALEC Events Update

ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson Invites You to Denver

44th ALEC Annual Meeting | Register Today | A Sarah Wood Production



Hurry and **register** for the ALEC Annual Meeting before the early bird deadline ends **June 6th!**

In case you missed it, Governor Matt Bevin (KY), the Honorable Jim DeMint, Mr. Steve Forbes and more have been confirmed to speak in Denver. Stay tuned for Annual Meeting agenda updates and more speaker announcements coming soon!

Watch the Full Promo



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Expert Insight

Congress Seeks to Expand Eligibility for Expungements for Nonviolent, First-Time Offenders

Ronald L. Lampard | Sean Smith | Criminal Justice Reform



Congress is considering expanding the eligibility for an expungement for first-time, nonviolent drug offenders. [Click here](#) to see how *The Renew Act* could create a path to success for first time offenders without compromising the government's interests in public safety.



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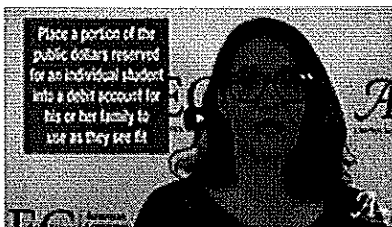
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VIDEO: Education Policy 101

What are Educational Savings Accounts (ESA)?

Inez Feltcher Stepman | Education Policy | A Sarah Wood Production



Education and Workforce Development Task Force Director Inez Feltcher Stepman breaks down what educational savings accounts (ESA) are. [Click here](#) for the full video.



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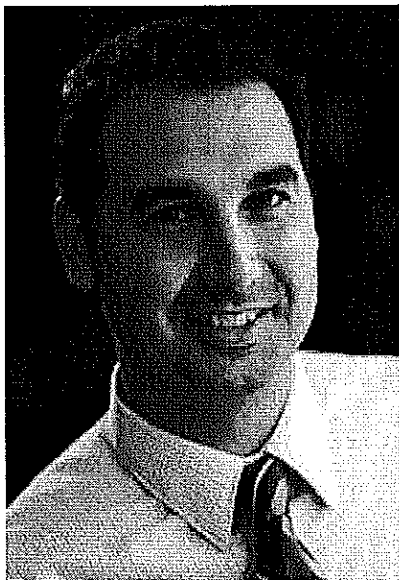
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Featured ALEC Member

ALEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Representative Mike La Rosa | FL-42



Representative Mike La Rosa is a native Floridian and was born in Miami, Florida. He received his B.A. in Interpersonal Communications from the University of Central Florida. Outside of his work in the legislature, Rep. La Rosa serves as a real estate and development broker at La Rosa Realty. [Click here](#) for more.



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From: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger

Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2017 11:21 AM

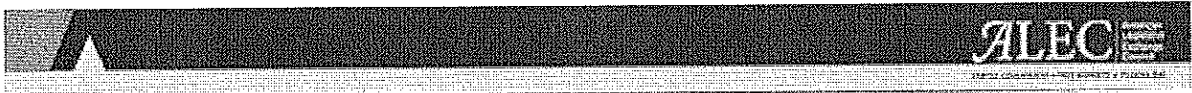
To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, Transform Your Relationship With Your Constituents. For Free

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Dear Representative Schuring,

As a legislator, you wear more than one hat: balancing your roles at home, work and in government. You deserve a break anywhere you can get one.

ALEC CARE is the growing, one-stop shop Constituent Relationship Management (**CRM**) tool for legislators. This dynamic tool allows elected officials to prioritize and spend time where it matters by eliminating manual data entry and proactively recording every constituent interaction - building stronger relationships and surfacing key insights into your community.

Would it be even better if that tool was free?

ALEC CARE is 100% free with your ALEC membership. So what is there to lose?

Find out what ALEC members consider one of the most valuable benefits we offer.

Sign up for a personal demonstration to see how it can benefit you.

Click here and a member of our team will reach out to schedule a 20 - minute demonstration.

I hope you will take advantage of this valuable, **FREE** tool.

Sincerely,

Speaker Cliff Rosenberger
State Chair, OH

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From: American Legislative Exchange Council

Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2017 12:01 PM

To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, have you seen the new Rich States, Poor States site yet?

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Center for State Fiscal Reform - June 6, 2017



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al Meeting Updates

Rates End TODAY and Surprise Guest Speaker Announced

al Meeting | Register Today | NEW Speakers Announced



[View Meeting Agenda](#)

Hurry and **register** for the ALEC Annual Meeting before the early bird deadline ends **TODAY**!

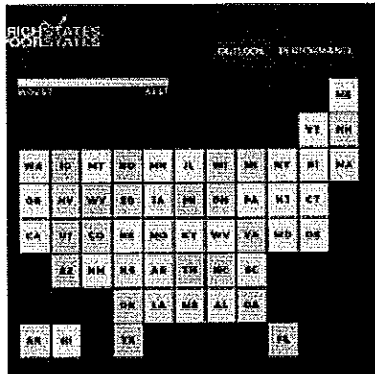
SPEAKER ANNOUNCEMENT: Secretary Betsy DeVos has been confirmed to join ALEC and speak to what is being done for Education issues at the state and federal levels. **Grace-Mar** and **Avik Roy** will also be joining ALEC and the Health and Human Services Task Force to discuss state of health care reform in the states.

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er Website

Poor States Website

er for State Fiscal Reform | Richstatespoorstates.org



RichStatesPoorStates.org

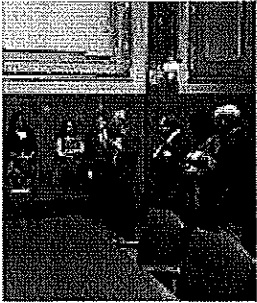
Check out the new, official *Rich States, Poor States* website to examine the latest movement in economic growth and competitiveness. With an interactive and easy to use interface, visitors can compare their states' economic outlook. **Click here** to find out how your state adds up!

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er Update

nsions and Free Speech on Display in Salt Lake City

| Center for State Fiscal Reform



The ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform and the Center to Protect Free Speech joined Utah May 17-19 in Salt Lake City. The event consisted of a nonpartisan policy training and a forum for legislators to discuss detailed policy solutions regarding pension reform, tax reform and prior budgeting, donor privacy and commercial speech. [Click here](#) to find out more.



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[on Policy Update](#)

Administration's Budget Reins in Spending, Predicts Enhanced GDP Growth

[Center for State Fiscal Reform | Tax Reform](#)



The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 outlined an ambitious pro-growth agenda—addressing discretionary as well as entitlement spending. [Click here](#) to find out the Administration's budget highlights.



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Second Budget Impasse, Look Beyond the Media Hype to the Facts

[Jeffrey Griffith | Senator Ty Masterson, KY](#)



The impasse in Topeka over how to close the budget gap and whether to impose new tax hikes has captured the attention of the state and the nation. [Click here](#) to learn more about Kansas plans to minimize the tax burden on creators, entrepreneurs and workers.



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ht g States' Budget Deficits: Performance-Based Outcome Budgeting

| Bob Williams | President, State Budget Solutions



Bob Williams, President of State Budget Solutions and Senior ALEC Scholar, lays out how states are masking long-term budget deficits through accounting gimmicks-spurring the risk of a severe crisis. [Read more.](#)

[Read the Full Article](#)



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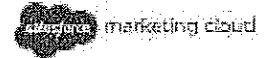


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From: Laurel Buckley
Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2017 12:03 PM
Subject: A Fond Farewell

It is with excitement that I announce my departure from the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). It has been such an honor to be a part of the ALEC team for the past four years. I enjoyed my time here and appreciate being part of such a great organization. Thank you for the encouragement, support and friendship during my years at ALEC. It was a pleasure working with you and I hope we can continue to work together.

On Monday I will begin a new chapter as the Director of Development at the Liberty Justice Center. I do hope we can continue our friendship. Please feel free to contact me via email at laureljane.buckley@gmail.com or phone at 815-830-4811.

If you need anything here at ALEC, please contact Wes Fisher at WFisher@alec.org or via phone at 571-482-5051.

Until next time,
Laurel Buckley
Director of Development and Midwestern Relations
American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor
Arlington, VA 22202

C: (202) 689-9208
Email: lbuckley@alec.org

Upcoming Meetings:

2017 Annual Meeting – July 19-21, 2017 – Denver, Colorado
2017 States and Nation Policy Summit – December 6-8, 2017 – Nashville, Tennessee
2018 Spring Task Force Summit – April 27, 2018 – Grand Rapids, Michigan

From: American Legislative Exchange Council

Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2017 12:01 PM

To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, make sure you check out the latest Annual Meeting updates!

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A black and white photograph of the Denver State Capitol building, featuring its prominent dome and classical architecture, serves as the background for the top half of the advertisement.

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ALEC CARE in Denver

See what ALEC lawmakers consider one of the most valuable benefits of membership at the ALEC Annual Meeting.

ALEC CARE is THE Constituent Relationship Management (CRM) tool solution for legislators that transforms the way you interact with your constituent. Be sure to reserve a time slot to receive a 20 minute demonstration while you're in Denver.

During the training, you will learn:

- How to turn contact information into engaging relationships with your constituents
- How to be a better lawmaker by using data

[Click Here to Reserve Your Demo](#)

ALEC Events Update

ALEC Annual Meeting Announcements

[Watch ALEC Annual Meeting](#) | [Register Today](#) | [Agenda](#) | [Speakers](#)



ALEC is pleased to announce Education Secretary Betsy DeVos will be joining us for our 44th Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado. [Click here](#) to see the newest additions to the ALEC Annual Meeting line-up.



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[Meeting Agenda Updates](#)

ALEC Staff Update

Jonathan Williams Joins the State Financial Officers Foundation Advisory Board

Jonathan Williams | ALEC Chief Economist and Vice President for the Center for State Fiscal Reform



ALEC Chief Economist and Vice President for the Center for State and Fiscal Reform, Jonathan Williams, has joined the State Financial Officers Foundation (SFOF) Advisory Board. [Click here](#) for more.

[Read the Full Update](#)



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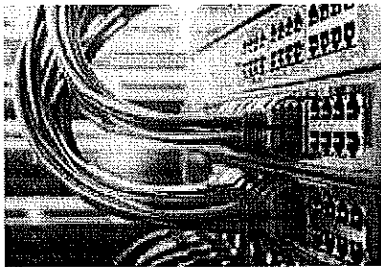


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Expert Insight

Report: Municipally Owned Fiber Networks are a Losing Proposition for Taxpayers

Nathan Hauenschild | Task Force Director, Communications and Technology | Broadband



[Read the Full Article](#)

According to a **recent report** from the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Technology, Innovation and Competition, municipally owned broadband networks simply are not wise investments for localities. **Click here** for more.



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Featured ALEC Member

LEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

Representative Heath VanNatter | IN-38



[Read the Full Bio](#)

Representative Heath VanNatter is a native of Indiana born in Howard County. He is currently serving in his fourth term representing the 38th District of the Indiana House of Representatives. Rep. VanNatter is the owner and operator of VanNatter Construction, and serves on the Executive Committee of the Indiana Builders Association and the Board of Directors of the National Association of Home Builders. Additionally, he is the past President of the Howard County Home Builders Association, of which he is also a current board member. **Click here** for the full bio.



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From: Inez Feltscher Stepman

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 12:01 PM

To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, here's my take on answering the charge of discrimination

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A Letter From the Desk of, *Inez Feltscher Stepman*

Dear Kirk,

I hope you are looking forward to the great meeting we're planning for you in Denver! We'll be discussing some timely topics in our task force meeting, from updates to our education savings account and tax credit scholarship plans, to due process on university campuses, to the proper role of the federal government when it comes to education and advancing school choice.

The past couple months have been busy here at ALEC. Last Wednesday, alongside other great organizations like TTPF, The Heritage Foundation, and the Goldwater Institute, ALEC released a letter to Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, commending her for her continued support of education choice, as well as recommending some solutions that would advance choice while rolling back Washington, D.C.'s heavy hand in education policy. I also co-authored a policy paper with Lindsey Burke, who directs the Center for Education Policy at The Heritage Foundation, on the potential universal education savings accounts offered in the great state of Texas.

Unfortunately, education choice has suffered two setbacks in the past month. First, a great Texas coalition took education savings accounts right down to the wire, but the legislature failed to pass the special needs program at the last minute. And second, the Nevada legislature adjourned without funding the more than

8,000 families *already* signed up for the state's near-universal eligibility ESA program. These setbacks will just make us more determined to fight harder to empower parents with the choices that suit their children, not a distant bureaucrat or an arbitrary district line, best.

What's On My Radar

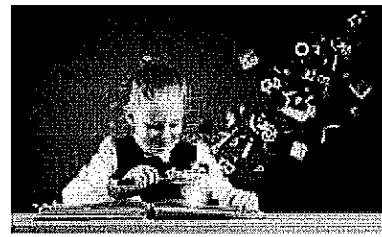
What I'm Reading
#ShowTheEvidence
The 74 Million | Education Policy



How do we know what technology is actually impactful in the classroom? This is the first in a series of essays surrounding the EdTech Efficacy Research Symposium, a gathering of 275 education policy experts.

[Read the Full Article](#)

What I'm Researching
Back to the Staffing Surge
Ed Choice | Benjamin Scafidi, Ph.D.



The Great Teacher Salary Stagnation and the Decades-Long Employment Growth in American Public Schools. Click here to find out how "disproportionate growth" is manipulating public perception.

[Read the Full Article](#)

Expert Insight
Education Dollars Should Matter-but do they?
CATO Institute | Corey A. Deangelis



Does how much we spend on education matter, or is how we spend it more important? Click here for more.

[Read the Full Article](#)

Expert Opinion
What Betsy DeVos SHOULD Say
Fordham Institute | Michael J. Petrilli



Click here for more information on how to answer the charge of "discrimination" in religious private schools.

[Read the Full Article](#)

Looking forward to hearing your voice on these important topics July 19-21st in Denver, Colorado!

Sincerely,

Inez Feltscher Stepman

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Sent: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: Kirk, here's the latest on all things Federalism

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Center to Restore the Balance of Government



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ALEC Annual Meeting Update

Convention of States Workshop and Plenary

1 ALEC Annual Meeting | **Karla Jones** | Director, Center to Restore the Balance of Government

NEW WORKSHOP: The ALEC Center to Restore the Balance of Government will host a new Convention of States Workshop and Plenary during the ALEC Annual Meeting. Contact Center Director, Karla Jones at kjones@alec.org for more information.

Topic Description

Many constitutionalists may have become complacent toward the federal government now that Republicans control the White House and Congress. But the truth is, our nation's only hope for a real and lasting constitutional renaissance resides in the state legislatures' power under Article V. Why the nation needs YOU to drain the swamp with the ultimate tool of Federalism: four perspectives on Article V.

Speakers

- The Constitutional Scholar and ALEC Board of Scholars Member, **Professor Rob Natelson**
- The Physician, Entrepreneur, Capitol insider and Accountant **Senator Tom Coburn**
- The Capitol and Think Tank Insider **Senator Jim DeMint**
- Outsider Activist **Mr. Mark Meckler**

[Click Here to Find Out More](#)

State Insight: Texas

Postcards from Texas

Joseph "Cy" Tongate | Federalism



[Read the Full Article](#)

"...All politics is—or should be—local. These states are supposed to be their own entities with individual identities, politics and characteristics, only loosely controlled by the national government. We are supposed to be a union of different states."

[Click here](#) for an expert take on what "big government" means to a Texan.



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Expert Insight

Scott Walker Backs Wisconsin's Economy Away from a Cliff

Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty | Jake Curtis and Will Flanders



[Read the Full Article](#)

Today, Wisconsin boasts a balanced budget, reserves that haven't been seen in nearly two decades, property tax obligations that are in many cases lower than in 2011 and unemployment and labor participation rates that are almost impossible to top. **We were therefore confused** when reading a critique arguing a proverbial Martian would not be able to identify Walker's election on Wisconsin performance graphs measuring the last ten years....[Read more.](#)



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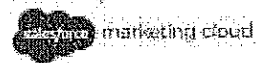
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LEC Annual Meeting Updates

Workshop Topics Announced for Annual Meeting

Click below for the full topic descriptions

- The State of Oil and Natural Gas Regulations: Local Governments vs. State Agencies & How the Industry Can Best Balance Transparency and Safety

- Expanding Access to Dental Care in Medicaid Through Market-Based Solutions
- Why the Nation Needs YOU to Drain the Swamp With the Ultimate Tool of Federalism: 4 Perspectives on Article V
- Prescription Drug Abuse: A Collective Approach to Policy Solutions Is Essential
- Beyond the Headlines: The Data and Trends You Need to Know about School Choice
- The Future of Fossil Fuels: How Innovative Technologies will Lower Costs and Solve Environmental Objectives

EW: Featured Report

State of the States 2017

Nathan Williams | Joel Griffith | Elliot Young | Christine Smith

April 12, 2017

State of the States

An Analysis of the 2017 Governors' Addresses

NEW REPORT: Released yesterday, by the ALEC Center for State Fiscal Reform includes State of the State or other policy addresses delivered by 50 governors across America. These speeches included numerous economic policy proposals that will affect the states' economic competitiveness. This report observes and analyzes the economic policy proposals discussed in each governor's State of the State address. [Click here to find out more.](#)



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Expert Insight

Secretary Zinke Shouldn't Stop With Bears Ears

Benjamin Stein | Task Force Director, Energy, Environment and Agriculture | Environmental Stewardship



Read the Full Article

On Monday, the Department of Interior announced the interim recommendation of its review process of the Bears Ears National Monument. Secretary Zinke recommended substantially shrinking the monument, noting "designating a monument that—including state land—encompasses almost 1.5 million acres where multiple-use management is hindered or prohibited is not the best use of the land and is not in accordance with the intention of the Antiquities Act." **He couldn't be more correct.** [Click here to find out why.](#)



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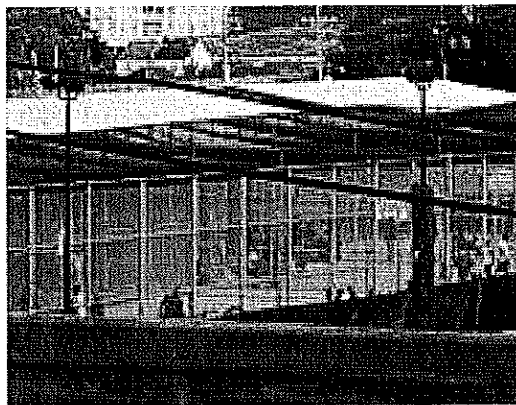


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Expert Opinion

The Importance of Creating Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Opportunities for Inmates

an Smith | Criminal Justice Reform



[Read the Full Article](#)

The ALEC Task Force on Criminal Justice Reform offers expert insight into the importance of offering the opportunity of rehabilitation to inmates so they can become functioning members of society. [Click here for more.](#)



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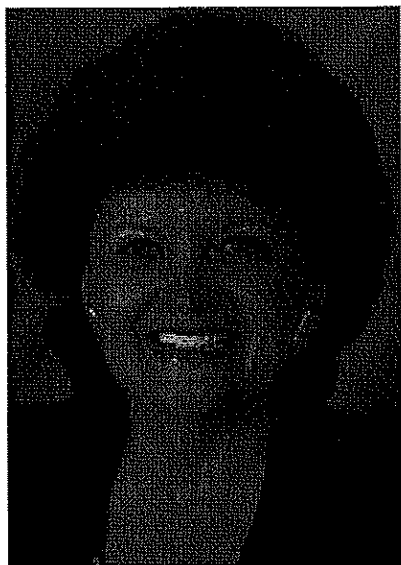


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Featured ALEC Member

LEC-FreedomWorks Legislator of the Week

ator Gail Griffin | AZ-14



Senator Gail Griffin is serving her seventh year in the Arizona State Senate representing the 14th District and her third year as Majority Whip. Outside of her work in the legislature, Sen. Griffin is a Real Estate Broker at Sierra Vista Realty where she has worked for over 40 years. [Click here for the full bio.](#)



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Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2017 4:01 PM

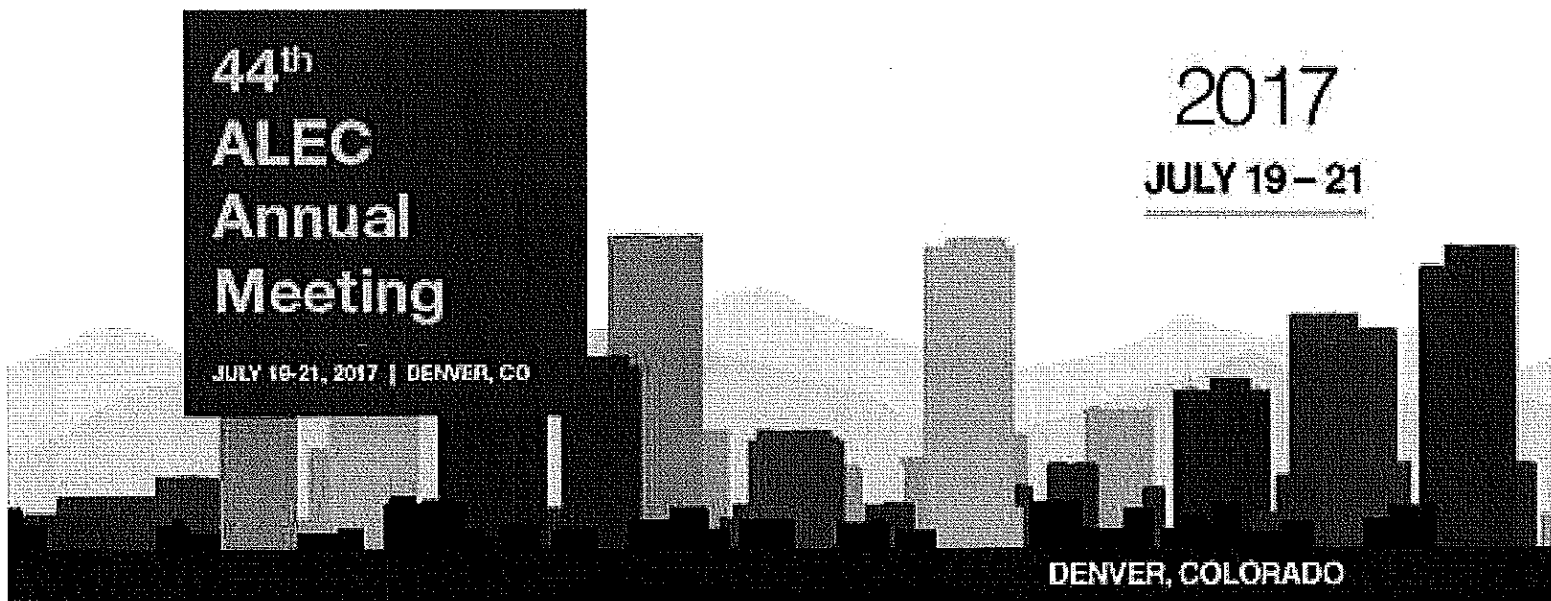
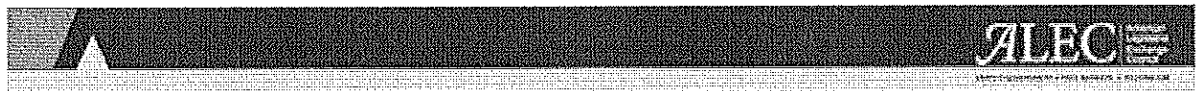
To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, here is your sneak peak of the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting Model Policies

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Dear Kirk,

Thank you for being a member of the Task Force on Communications and Technology.

As the Annual Meeting nears, please make sure to take a look at the task force materials below! Included on our task force's webpage are draft agendas for the subcommittees and the task force meeting, as well as a list of the model policies for task force consideration. I look forward to seeing you in Denver, as we discuss a wide range of state-based solutions for some of today's biggest policy topics and hear from a wide range of policy experts.

Sunsetting Policy for Review

- Neutrality and Integrity in Software Procurement Act
- Electronic Government Services Act
- Online Bidding Act
- Resolution Supporting Pro Consumer Public Policy for Voice, Video and Data Services

[Click Here for the Agenda](#)

[Review the Full List of Model Policies](#)

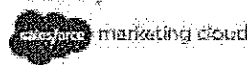
See you in Denver!

Jonathan Hauenschild
Task Force Director
Communications and Technology
jhauenschild@alec.org

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From: Lisa B. Nelson

Sent: Friday, June 16, 2017 2:01 PM

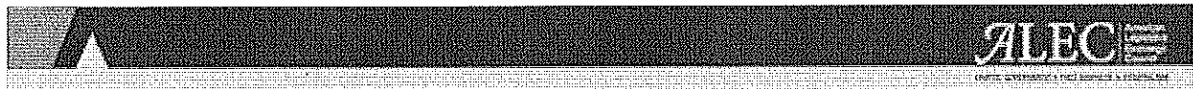
To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, here is your sneak peak of the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting Model Policies

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JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO

2017
JULY 19 - 21

DENVER, COLORADO

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Dear Kirk,

As the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting begins to kick off in full gear, make sure to take a look at the task force materials below to stay ahead of the curve! Included on each Task Force webpage are draft agendas for the subcommittees, working groups and the task force meeting, as well as the model policies in line for task force consideration.

- Civil Justice
- Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development
- Communications and Technology
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Federalism & International Relations
- Education and Workforce Development
- Energy, Environment & Ag.
- Health and Human Services
- Tax and Fiscal Policy

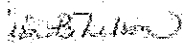
[Click Here for the Full List of Model Policies](#)

While you are busy making plans for your Task Force meetings, make sure to carve out some time for a quick, 20 - minute CARE demonstration. If your Task Force meeting is on Thursday, our CARE team would be happy to reserve your spot during one of the Friday timeslots. If your Task Force meeting falls on Friday, drop by during the Thursday line-up. Click below for the full schedule.

[ALEC CARE Demo Schedule](#)

Look forward to seeing you this July, as we discuss a wide range of state-based solutions for some of today's biggest policy topics and hear from a wide range of policy experts.

See you in Denver!



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From: Speaker Linda Upmeyer
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 4:01 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: You're Invited: ALEC State Leadership Academy July 17!

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Dear Kirk,

= AWe all tackle hard-hitting issues in our respective states and while one size does not fit all, why not come together, collaborate and develop winning policy solutions, tailored to the individual needs of our states?

I hope you will join me and other legislators from states across the country for an invitation-only academy, designed exclusively for Speakers of the House, Senate Presidents and Caucus and Committee Chairmen.

Don't miss out on this jam-packed event, featuring TV and radio personalities, leading policy experts and valuable opportunities for us to network with leaders in neighboring and regional state legislatures and even gain insight from our counterparts across the country.

This Leadership Academy will be held July 17-18 at the Hyatt Regency Denver in conjunction with the American Legislative Exchange Council Annual Meeting. To RSVP, please contact Spencer Chretien at schretien@alec.org or (571) 482-5013.

ALEC will cover two nights hotel and reimburse up to \$500 in airfare.

Click here for a copy of the agenda.

Sincerely,

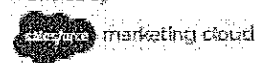
Speaker Linda Upmeyer, Iowa

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From: American Legislative Exchange Council
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 12:19 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: Innovation Heats Up! and You Can Be Part of It

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Center for Innovation and Technology - June
20, 2017



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ALEC Annual Meeting Updates

If you are busy making plans for your Task Force meetings, make sure to carve out some time for a quick, **20 - minute CARE demonstration**. If your Task Force meeting is on Thursday, our CARE team would be happy to reserve your spot during one of the Friday timeslots. If your Task force

eting falls on Friday, drop by during the Thursday line-up. Click below for the full schedule.

ALEC CARE Demo Schedule

A Letter From the Desk of Bartlett Cleland

Innovation Heats Up! and You Can Be Part of It

the many promises of innovation, no promise likely rises higher than the opportunity to live longer, healthier and more active lives. While advances in entertainment and consumer electronics tend to catch our attention and seem to improve some aspects of our lives almost immediately, advances in health care can often seem remote and harder to grasp. But now and then an advance comes along that is completely obvious in its benefit.

Smoking remains one of the leading preventable causes of death in the U.S. and around the world, for that matter. For years, various products have been on the market to help those who do smoke to kick the habit, but the results have been mixed at best. The fact is approximately 40 million Americans still smoke. That is nearly one out of eight Americans. America needs better options.

As reported by the Royal College of Physicians last year, commenting on what is widely accepted, "Most of the harm caused by smoking arises not from nicotine but from other components of tobacco smoke." This follows the Health and Human Services report that diseases from smoking are directly linked to long term exposure to the toxicants from combustible tobacco products. But it turns out that if instead of burning the tobacco it is heated to where it produces a fine vapor, then the health challenges are vastly reduced. And that is where Philip Morris International (PMI) comes in.

PMI has spent years and invested billions of dollars on "heat-not-burn" technology, working to modify the risk of tobacco products. Their patented product, the Tobacco Heating System, is a rechargeable electronic heated blade that releases the moisture in tobacco to produce an aerosol that tastes like tobacco and hence satisfies smokers. The tobacco never burns. This is innovation bettering the health of those who already choose to smoke.

But government needs to get out of the way and let the innovation of the free market help address the major health concern of smoking. Congress created a particular means to provide an incentive for innovators to find a way to reduce the harm of cigarette smoking, or as they are called, Modified Risk Tobacco Products. Congress handed the FDA the authority to authorize such life-saving inventions but they must consider the effects of the new products not just on smokers but on the general population. During this consideration risks are weighed against all the benefits of bringing a new health alternative to market that holds the promise of actually reducing smoking. So, applications for such products must be approved by the FDA. But while the FDA may be famous for approving new products it is equally infamous for throttling innovation by moving at the speed of government. But when lives are at stake certainly the agency could accelerate its review while continuing to be transparent and fair, somewhat mitigating the slowness of bureaucracy and regarding partisan politics.

PMI can help push innovation forward, nudge government to move and provide a pathway for millions of American lives to be saved by making available more scientifically substantiated alternatives to smoking available. The public docket is open on modified risk tobacco product applications and you can find comments in support of the free market and innovation. From now until December 12 the FDA is accepting public comments, but the FDA is asking for comments to be filed earlier rather than later. Comments are easily filed [here](#).

Those who believe that the free market is the best solution and that liberty is better than big government must be constantly vigilant in big and small ways. The FDA has provided an opportunity for those favoring innovation to make the case for the free market in improving of our nation's health. Please make your case.

Sincerely,

Bartlett Cleland

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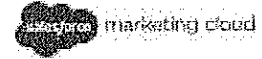
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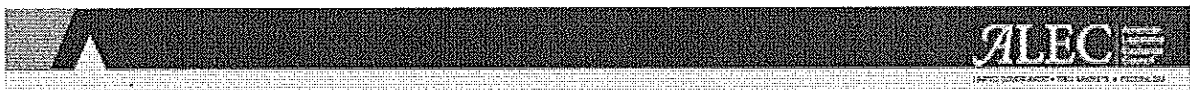
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From: Lisa B. Nelson
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 12:01 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: Kirk, you're busy - we get it, and we have a solution

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Dear Representative Schuring,

You're busy – we get it.

That's why we want to help you save time and energy with our ALEC membership benefit, ALEC CARE- a ground-breaking constituent relationship management (CRM) tool. This dynamic tool allows you to make the most your time and improve your engagement with your constituents.

Our ALEC CARE team would like to help get you and your account started. If you are making plans to attend the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting in Denver, July 19-21, carve out some time in your schedule for a quick, **20-minute CARE demo**. **Click here** for available time slots. For more information, contact Ashley Varner avarner@alec.org.

Sincerely,

Lisa B. Nelson
CEO

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To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, have you reserved your hotel room for Annual Meeting yet?

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Its Update

E in Denver

Contact Ashley Varner for more information avarner@alec.org

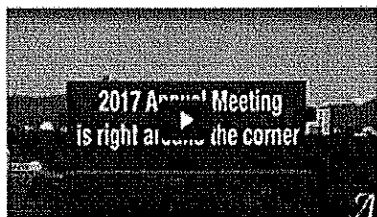
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our CARE team would be happy to reserve your spot during one of the Friday timeslots. If your Task force meeting falls on Friday, drop by during the slow for the full schedule.

ALEC CARE Demo Schedule

Meeting Housing Deadline is Monday!

Annual Meeting | Register Today | A Sarah Wood Production



[Watch the Full Promo](#)

The 44th ALEC Annual Meeting is just around the corner! If you plan on joining us in Denver, not yet done so yet, hurry and reserve your hotel today before the housing block ends Monday. = A

[Click here to make your housing reservation.](#)



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Mid Crisis, Maryland is an Example for the Rest of the Nation

Board | Criminal Justice Reform



[Read the Full Article](#)

The opioid crisis has affected rural and urban areas across the nation. Members of all socioeconomic classes in the state of Maryland have been hit par

9Fortunately, the Maryland legis several measures aimed at address the opioid crisis this year. **The bills, w were signed into law** by Republic Larry Hogan, provide a wide range



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ur Underground Water Infrastructure Through Open Competition

City Council Woman | Austin, TX | ACCE



Like so many other people across the country, I was horrified by the water contamination that struck Flint, Michigan. As an elected official who bears direct responsibility for the integrity of my city's drinking water, I ask myself: What can be done to prevent this from happening in my community? Stay tuned for more.



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form Update

nia Passes Bipartisan Pension Reform

nathan Williams | Pension Reform

Thanks to the dedication of numerous ALEC legislative leaders in Harrisburg, pension reform was e Pennsylvania this week. The long-term financial risk to taxpayers of potentially being forced to bail c underfunded pension system is now substantially diminished. **Click here** for more.

[Read the Full Article](#)



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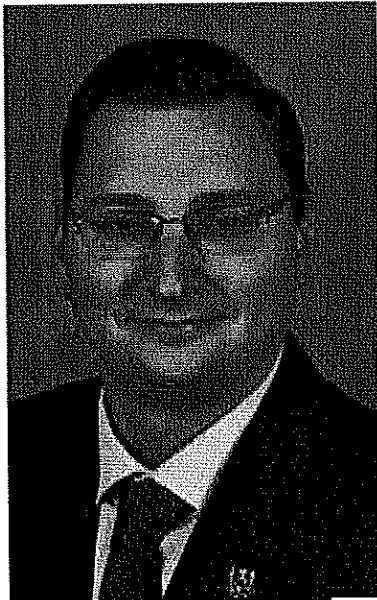


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LEC Member

domWorks Legislator of the Week

al Hough | MD-04



[Read the Full Bio](#)

Senator Michael Hough is a native Marylander and was born in Silver Spring, Maryland. After graduated high school, he entered the United States Air Force and served as a Minuteman I Technician. He received his A.A from the Community College of the Air Force and B.S. in P Science from Towson University. In addition to his service in the Air Force, Sen. Hough serv legislative aide to Maryland State Senator Alex Mooney before entering the legislature. **Click** the full bio.



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From: Spencer Chretien
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2017 5:17 PM
To: Spencer Chretien
Subject: Don't Miss Out: ALEC State Leadership Academy July 17-18

Dear friends,

I want to personally invite you to our American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) State Leadership Academy on July 17 and 18 in Denver, CO. Earlier this week you received an email from Iowa House Speaker Linda Upmeyer inviting you, but I wanted to follow up.

This Academy is *exclusively* for legislators who serve in leadership positions, and will bring together your colleagues and counterparts from across the country. We will have exciting outside speakers and plenty of time for fellowship. ALEC will cover two nights' hotel and reimburse up to \$500 in travel costs.

This Academy is being held right before our 2017 Annual Meeting begins; of course, you are welcome to join us for our larger meeting as well.

If you are interested, please RSVP to me for more logistical details. We hope to see you in Denver for our State Leadership Academy!

Thank you for your service as legislators and your commitment to the principles of freedom.

Spencer

Spencer Chretien
Membership Manager
American Legislative Exchange Council
571-482-5013 (office)
202-281-8879 (cell)
SChretien@alec.org



Upcoming Meetings:

2017 Annual Meeting – July 19-21, 2017 – Denver, Colorado
2017 States and Nation Policy Summit – December 6-8, 2017 – Nashville, Tennessee
2018 Spring Task Force Summit – April 27, 2018 – Grand Rapids, Michigan

The American Legislative Exchange Council is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and is the largest nonpartisan, voluntary membership organization of state legislators in the United States dedicated to the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. The Council is governed by state legislators who comprise the National Board of Legislators and is advised by the Private Enterprise Advisory Council, a group of private, foundation and think tank members.

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From: American Legislative Exchange Council

Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 12:01 PM

To: Rep48

Subject: Kirk, here is the latest on donor privacy and free speech

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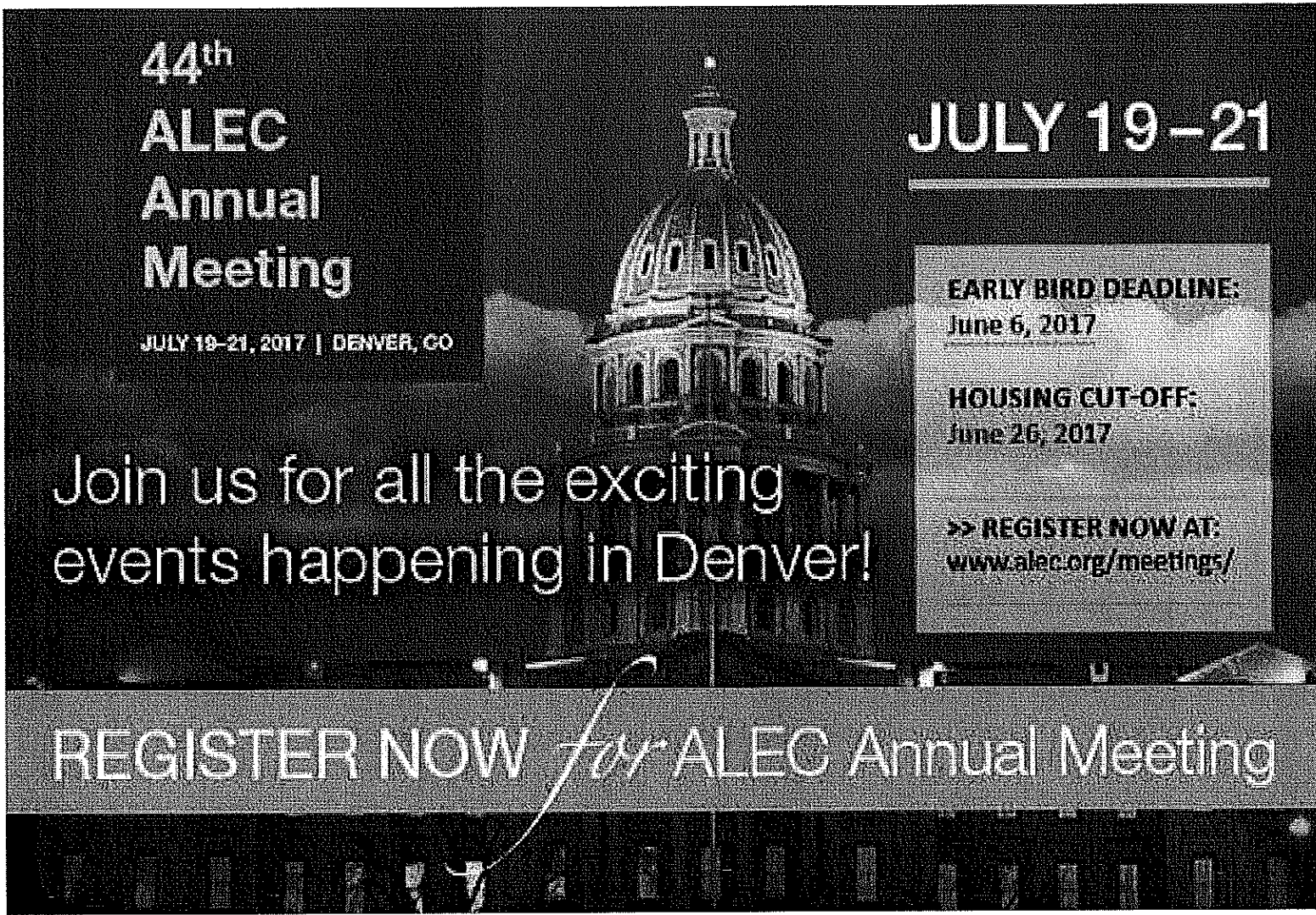
Center to Protect Free Speech - June 27, 2017



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EC Events Update

First Fridays" Conference Call, Donor Disclosure and Donor Privacy: *Chilling Effect on Free Speech and Association and Charitable Giving*

Friday, June 9th, the Center to Protect Free Speech held its inaugural "First Fridays" conference call. The call featured Sean Parnell of Philanthropy Roundtable. Mr. Parnell discussed donor privacy and why legislation designed to disclose donors to nonprofits organizations is harmful to private and corporate donors and the causes, organizations and people donors care about most.

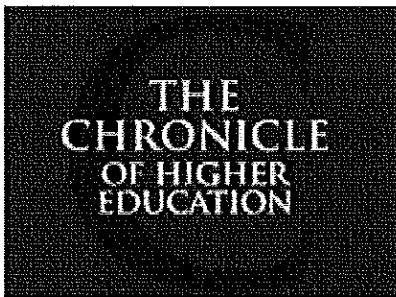
[Click Here Listen to the Recording](#)

[Join the Next "First Fridays" Call](#)

Center Highlight

Why Conservative Lawmakers are Turning to Free Speech Bills as a Fix for Higher Ed

by The Chronicle of Higher Education | B. McMurtie | Shelby Emmett



Center Director Shelby Emmett was noted by the Chronicle of Higher Education yesterday, for the newly approved campus speech model policy, the *Forming Open and Robust University Minds (Forum) Act*. Emmett describes an effective approach to promoting campus free speech below.

"The legislature has a role to play because a public institution has an obligation to protect free speech," she says. "But there is an academic-freedom element to that, so we don't want a top-down approach."

[Click here for more.](#)

[Read the Full Article](#)



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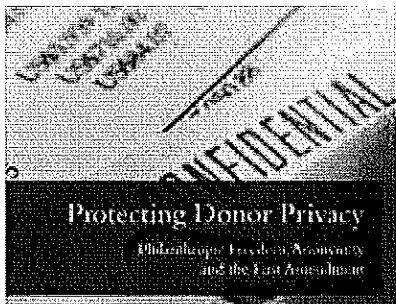
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Philanthropic Freedom, Anonymity and the First Amendment

by Sean Parnell | Philanthropy Roundtable | Donor Privacy | Free Speech



Sean Parnell explains the rich tradition and history of anonymous giving, current threats to donor privacy and what Americans stand to lose if donor privacy is not protected.

[Click here for more.](#)



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Expert Opinion

New Law Chills Charitable Giving in New York by Violating Donors' Privacy

in's New York Business | Sean Delany | Laura Abel | Sharon Stapel



[Read the Full Article](#)

There are many good reasons a contributor might want to keep his or her identity and the amount of a contribution confidential: modesty, a fear of danger that would result from exposing the extent of the donor's wealth, a desire to avoid being targeted for funding requests, or wanting to make a donation anonymously to honor a loved one. The state has nothing to gain, and much to lose, by discouraging such people from donating to charity.

[Click here to find out how donor privacy protects your constitutional rights.](#)



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Expert Opinion

K. Charities 'Scared to Speak Out' During Elections

Guardian | Vicky Browning | Donor Intimidation



[Read the Full Article](#)

Vicky Browning, who heads Acevo represents more than 1,000 charity chief executives, said many of her members had reported being 'too nervous, too anxious and too scared about the repercussions' to enter the political debate....'Charities are telling us they feel constrained, that they've been silenced.'

[Click here for more.](#)



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EC Model Policy

ALEC Model Resolution in Support of Nonprofit Donor Privacy

Civil Justice Task Force | Amy Kiose Anderson

In response to attempts to expand the scope and application of donor disclosure requirements to include donors to nonprofit organizations, this model policy resolves to oppose such efforts and protect the privacy of donors.

[Review the Model Policy](#)

Forming Open and Robust University Minds (Forum) Act

Center to Protect Free Speech | Shelby Emmett

ALEC's campus speech model policy, the Forming Open and Robust University Minds (FORUM) Act, has been approved by the board and is now official ALEC model policy. This model policy applies to public institutions of higher education.

[Review the Model Policy](#)

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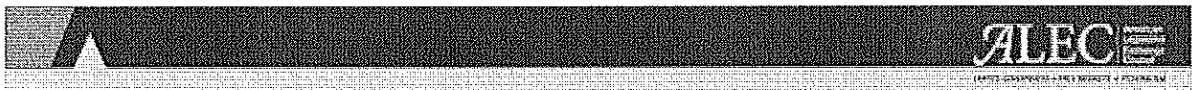
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From: Speaker Cliff Rosenberger
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 3:23 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: Kirk, Transform Your Relationship With Your Constituents. For Free

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Dear Representative Schuring,

As a legislator, you wear more than one hat: balancing your roles at home, work and in government. You deserve a break anywhere you can get one.

ALEC CARE is the growing, one-stop shop Constituent Relationship Management (**CRM**) tool for legislators. This dynamic tool allows elected officials to prioritize and spend time where it matters by eliminating manual data entry and proactively recording every constituent interaction - building stronger relationships and surfacing key insights into your community.

Would it be even better if that tool was free?

ALEC CARE is 100% free with your ALEC membership. So what is there to lose?

Find out what ALEC members consider one of the most valuable benefits we offer.

Sign up for a personal demonstration to see how it can benefit you.

Click here and a member of our team will reach out to schedule a 20 - minute demonstration.

I hope you will take advantage of this valuable, **FREE** tool.

Sincerely,

Speaker Cliff Rosenberger
State Chair, OH

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From: Speaker Linda Upmeyer
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: IMPORTANT REMINDER: You're Invited to the ALEC State Leadership Academy July 17!

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Dear Kirk,

= AWe all tackle hard-hitting issues in our respective states and while one size does not fit all, why not come together, collaborate and develop winning policy solutions, tailored to the individual needs of our states?

I hope you will join me and other legislators from states across the country for an invitation-only academy, designed exclusively for Speakers of the House, Senate Presidents and Caucus and Committee Chairmen.

Don't miss out on this jam-packed event, featuring TV and radio personalities, leading policy experts and valuable opportunities for us to network with leaders in neighboring and regional state legislatures and even gain insight from our counterparts across the country.

This Leadership Academy will be held July 17-18 at the Hyatt Regency Denver in conjunction with the American Legislative Exchange Council Annual Meeting. To RSVP, please contact Spencer Chretien at schretien@alec.org or (571) 482-5013.

ALEC will cover two nights hotel and reimburse up to \$500 in airfare.

Click here for a copy of the agenda.

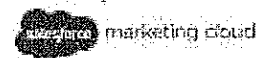
Sincerely,

Speaker Linda Upmeyer, Iowa

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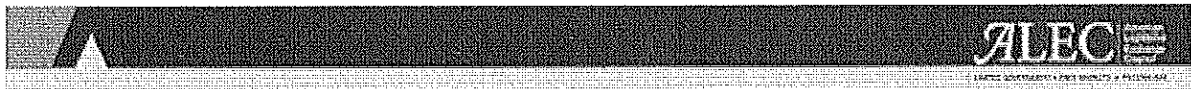
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From: American Legislative Exchange Council
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 12:02 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: Kirk, here are your weekly ALEC updates

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A large promotional banner for the 44th ALEC Annual Meeting. The background is a grayscale silhouette of the Denver skyline. On the left, a dark rectangular box contains the text "44th ALEC Annual Meeting" in large, bold, white letters, with "JULY 19-21, 2017 | DENVER, CO" in smaller white text below it. To the right of this box, the year "2017" is displayed in large, bold, white letters, with "JULY 19 - 21" in smaller white letters below it. At the bottom right of the banner, the text "DENVER, COLORADO" is written in white capital letters.

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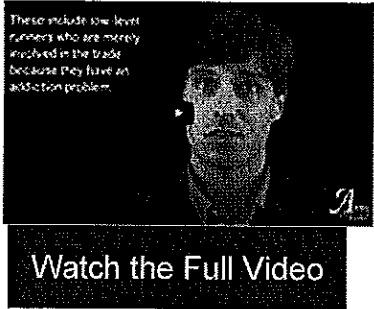
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DENVER, COLORADO

[Click Here to Register Today](#)

: Mandatory Minimum Drug Sentencing Explained

oard | A Sarah Wood Production | Criminal Justice Reform



Federal mandatory minimum sentences provide that if someone is convicted of selling or co-sell over a certain quantity of a particular drug, a judge must sentence the offender to a certain sentence, which can, depending on the offense, range from five years up to life imprisonment.

[Click here for more.](#)



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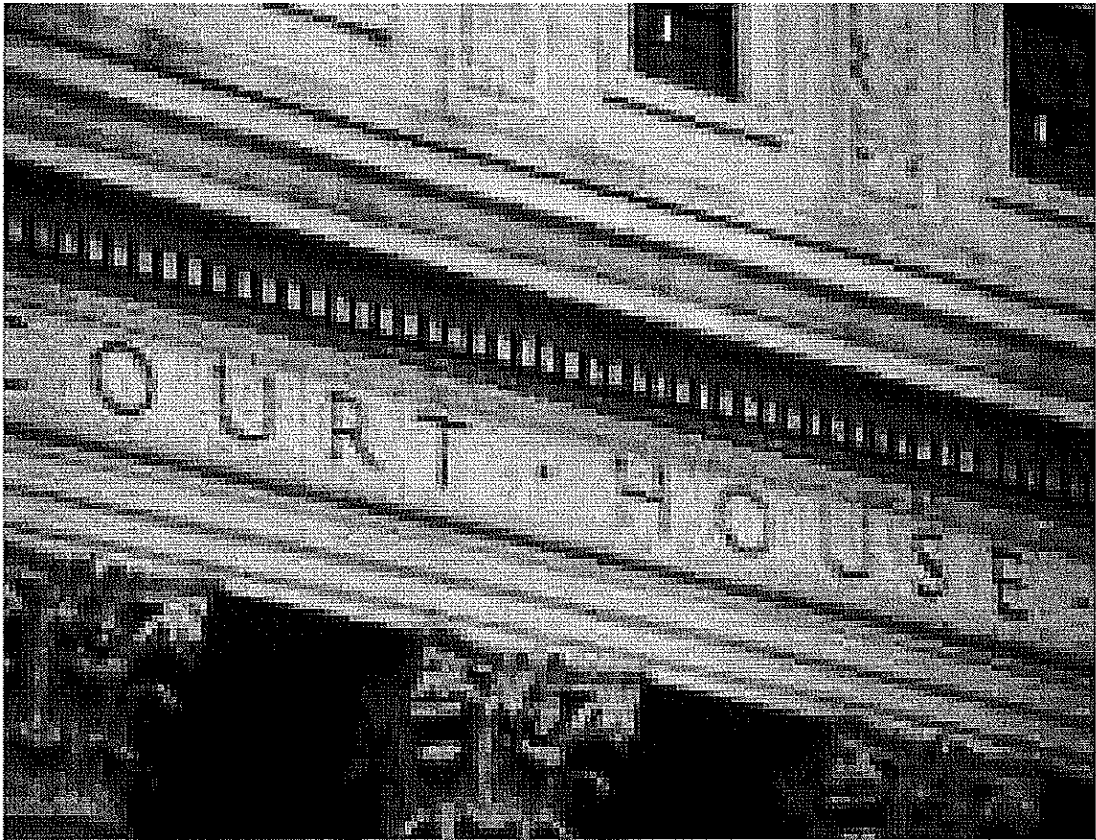


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ance of Raising the Age of Criminal Responsibility

riminal Justice Reform



Raising the age for criminal respon
juveniles is an issue on the front li
criminal justice reform. *Raise the a*
been passed at some point in almo
states and allow for juveniles to be
juveniles unless they have commit
violent offenses, such as murder, i
armed robbery.

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olina Accelerates Broad-Based Tax Relief

State Budget Reform



[Read the Full Article](#)

Budget proposal continues North Carolina's broad-based and pro-growth tax reforms. North
Senate Leader Phil Berger and House Speaker Tim Moore revealed details last Monday of
compromise consisting of a \$23 billion budget and \$530 million in tax relief package.

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Protect Free Speech Update

First Fridays" Conference Call, Donor Disclosure and Donor Privacy: *Chilling Effect on Free Speech and Association* Giving

On 9th, the Center to Protect Free Speech held its inaugural "First Fridays" conference call. The call featured Sean Parnell of Philanthropy Roundtable discussing donor privacy and why legislation designed to disclose donors to nonprofits organizations is harmful to private and corporate donors and the causes, organizations and people they care about most.

[Click Here to Listen to the Recording](#)

[Join the Next "First Fridays" Call](#)

Local Member

LocalWorks Legislator of the Week

Elijah Haahr | MO-134



[Read the Full Bio](#)

Representative Elijah Haahr grew up on a farm in southwest Missouri. He graduated cum laude in 2008 from Missouri Western State University (MWSU) with degrees in history and government & public affairs. After time at MWSU, Rep. Haahr moved on to law school at the University of Missouri School of Law, graduating with honors. Rep. Haahr continues his work as an attorney in Springfield at the Lathrop Gage law firm focusing on business litigation.

[Click here](#) for the full bio.



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